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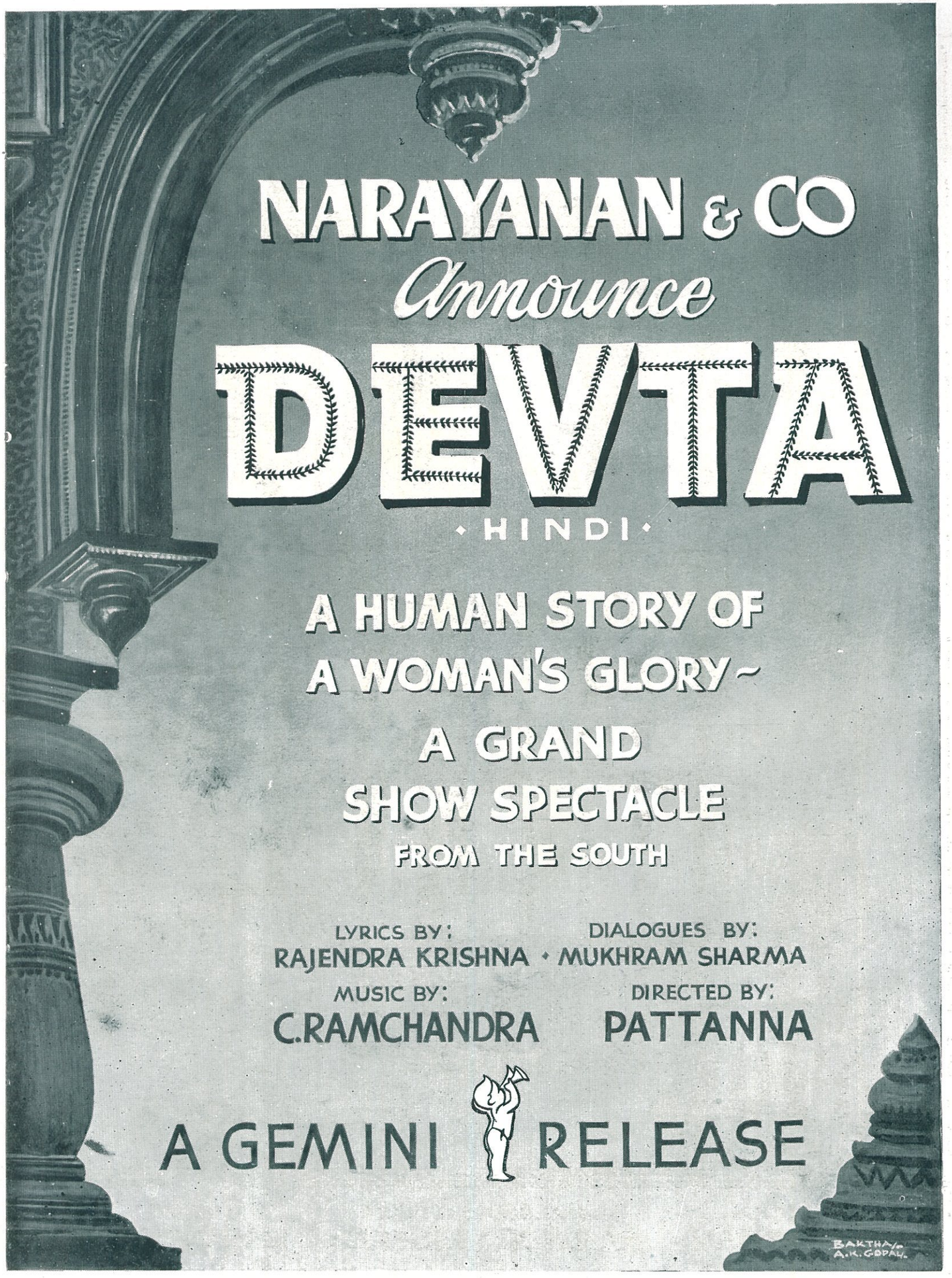
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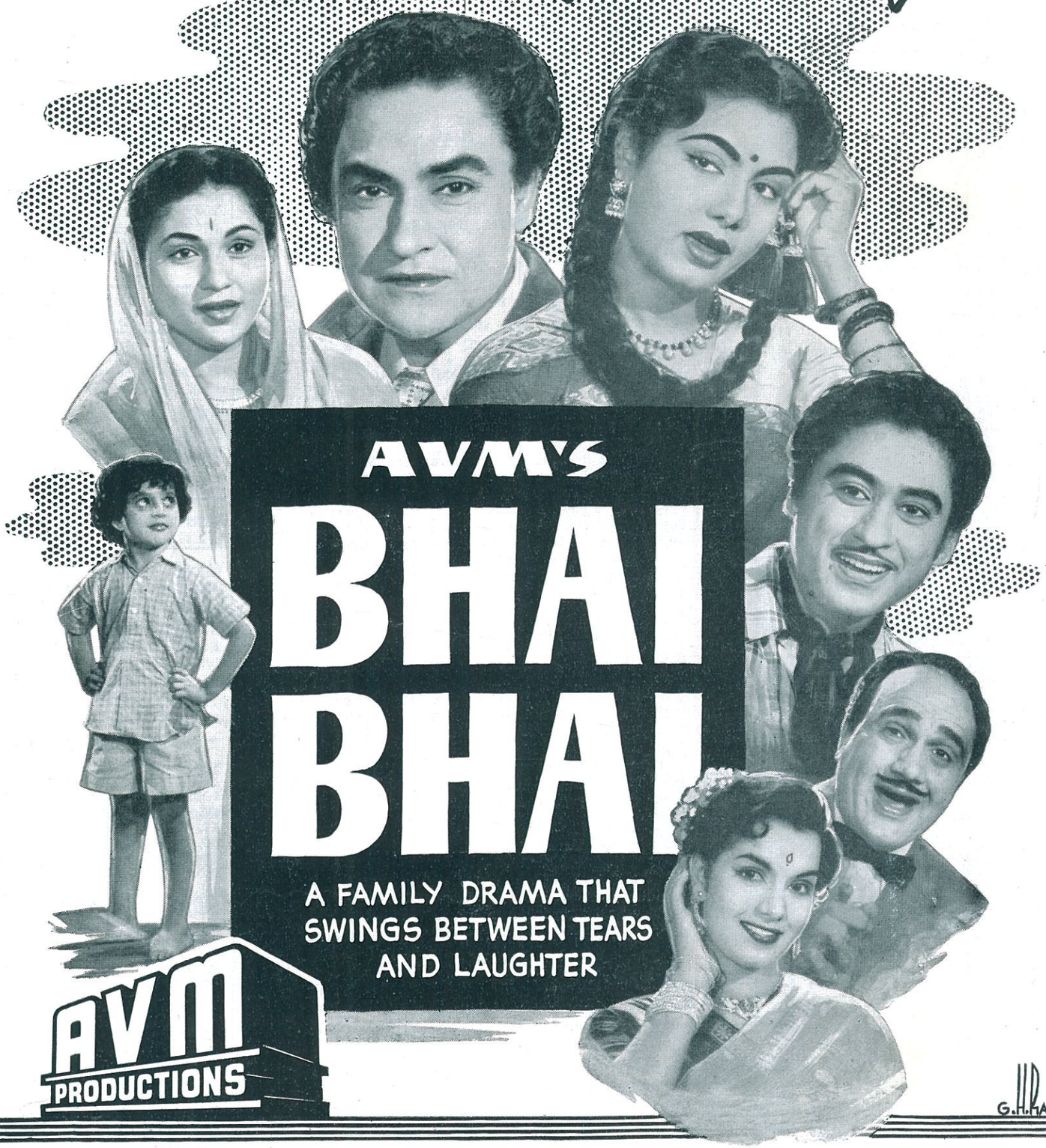

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filmindia

Editor : BABURAO PATEL

Vol XXII FEBRUARY, 1956 No 2

OFFICE

55 Sir Pherozeshah Mehta Road,

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Tel. 26-1752

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THE MAGAZINE THAT SELLS ITSELF SELLS A THOUSAND THINGS!

Warm Corpses And Cold Bullets

"Nehru Murdabad"

For the first time in 38 years of Nehru's political career in this country, we heard thousands of people in Bombay shouting "Nehru Murdabad" and saw hundreds of houses in Girgaum and Thakurdwar displaying black flags bearing the inscriptions "Nehru Murdabad" and "Death To Nehru". In a day our most beloved idol of the nation, a man who lived as the most popular symbol in millions of Indian hearts for over three decades, seemed to have forfeited the love of his people and become the target of the anger and indignation of over 27 million people of Maharashtra. And all this for no fault of his own.

Maharashtrians are in a terrible temper. They are in a mood to murder another Gandhi if they can find one. Not finding another Gandhi, they have begun hunting for the Gujaratis. Already hundreds of Gujarati shops have been looted, burnt and destroyed. As we write this, Bombay has finished its third day of rioting with a progressively imposing score: 1st day, 1 dead and 8 wounded by police firing; 2nd day, 18 wounded in police firing; 3rd day 30 killed and over 100 injured in police firing. How many more will die from the injured is anybody's guess. No one counts the number of policemen injured because they usually belong to the enemy camp in such an internal warfare which is always aimed at them because of their unpleasant work. But over a hundred policemen have been injured, 25 rather seriously, in trying to do their duty of maintaining law and order in a vast city of mad people.

And as most of the policemen of Bombay are themselves good and stalwart Marathas it seems cruel to ask them to forget their mother's milk and fill their stomachs with their brother's blood.

But then the Hindus of this ancient land have lived and died by the precept of Lord Krishna who told Arjuna on the battlefield of Kurukshetra:

कर्मण्येवाधिकारस्ते मा फलेषु कदाचन ।
मा कर्मफलहेतुर्भूर्मा ते सङ्गो ऽस्त्वकर्मणि ।।

"To action alone hast thou a right and never at all to its fruits; let not the fruits of action be thy motive; neither let there be in thee any attachment to inaction."

The Bombay police have therefore distinguished themselves in doing their duty as guardians of law and order even though while doing so like Arjuna, the Mahabharatan warrior, they are faced with crowds in which they see the familiar faces of their brothers and other cradle mates of Maharashtra. Duty is rarely pleasant. When it is wedded to politics it is positively abhorrent.

The battle for Bombay has thus begun and till it is won by the Maharashtrians, bloodshed in Bombay and other towns of Maharashtra will continue. Let Nehru and his whispering Congressmen make no mistake about that. The Maharashtrians rarely start a fight but when they do they finish it. That is the virtue which Maharashtrians have learnt from the Mahabharat, the saga of an all

Here is one who uses her pigtail as a sling but what does she strike the man with? Well, her armoury is full of many dangerous instruments of war and conquest. All she needs is someone to conquer. Let us see who is Nimmi's victim in "Bhai Bhai", a social romance produced by Mr. Meiyappa Chettiar for AVM.

Nargis goes to the village market buying a bullock and director Mehboob asks her to choose a more intelligent one than her husband. All this in the outdoors of that great screen classic, "Mother India", in colour, produced and directed by Mehboob.

annihilating fratricidal war. All this because the Government cut a beautiful old body into three ugly bits: Bombay, Maharashtra and Gujarat.

There is no surprise in all this. This tragedy was more than expected seeing that lakhs of people in the city have been continuously provoked to be ready for this warfare by leaders of different political parties during the last three months.

We had warned the Government about this way back in June 1955 in our editorial article "Rushing To The Rocks" in the following words, "As far as we can see, the re-distribution of provinces on linguistic basis is going to create new problems for us. It will create new hatreds and rivalries between provinces. It will create new minorities and new politically depressed classes in different provinces. It will develop a fanatical passion for regional languages and culture to the detriment of the national language and culture. It will turn provincial autonomy into regional and racial dictatorship and the linguistic units will contribute less to the strength of our federal government. It will promote class hatred of varying patterns in various provinces. For instance, the Marathas who are in a huge majority in Maharashtra will dominate over other communities and we shall soon see the Brahmins and the Banias treated as new Harijans of a linguistic state. It will increase communal favouritism and nepotism and our ideas of justice, liberty and equality will be thrown to the winds. It will encourage state employment, trade opportunities and industrial development on strictly communal lines to the detriment of minorities and usher a new era of cartels and monopolies contrary to the spirit and intention of our socialistic pattern of society. It will bring a vehement provincial outlook into our national councils and give rise to new bickerings and narrow provincial ambitions.

"In short the re-distribution of provinces on linguistic basis will completely ruin the traditional homogeneous pattern of our society and nation in the diversity of which Nehru loves to find a rare unity today."

This was written four months before the Report of the States Reorganisation Commission was published. As was expected no one listened to us. All those who make history never listen to good advice in time and that is why history has become a record of human mistakes. In this respect Indian politicians are not different from their cousins and ancestors all over the world.

On 10th October 1955, the Report of the States Reorganisation Commission was submitted to Parliament. This Report was prepared by a committee of three men—a jurist, an administrator and a politician—all men of long experience and proved integrity. They worked for 22 months, travelled 38,000 miles, visited 104 places, went through 1,52,250 documents and interviewed over 9000 persons and then wrote their 267-page Report. The Report cost the nation Rs. 10,06,669-5-3.

While appointing the Commission on 23rd December 1953, Prime Minister Nehru stated in Parliament that the Commission was appointed to examine "objectively and dispassionately" the question of the reorganization of the States of the Indian Union "so that the welfare of the people of each constituent unit as well as the nation as a whole is promoted".

This was a Commission appointed both by the Government and the Congress, which was the ruling party. It thus enjoyed the confidence of both. It had therefore a unique status in Parliament and also among the people. One could therefore be sure that its findings after a labour of 22 months would be accepted not only by the Government but also by the Congressmen and unreservedly so because of the huge volume of evidence it had gone through.

But the recommendations of the Report were not fully accepted by both the Government and the Congress Party. As has been its wont the Congress Party initiated its usual exercises of democracy and in an attempt to please all started chewing the Report from day to day at the meetings of the Congress Working Committee. This was a grand game in which Congressmen, big and small, from different parts of India flew to Delhi, had a bite at the Report and returned home for digesting or vomiting it and repolishing their teeth for another flight and bite. Dhebar and Shriman Narayan, the President and the Secretary of the Congress respectively, officials who were never noticed ordinarily, jumped into news as people believed that they held Nehru's ears in their hands. These little men strutted all over the country and shuttled between Vinoba and Nehru so many times that they looked as big as Atlas supporting the entire weight of the heavens on their shoulders.

In this nibbling and manhandling our Rs. 10-lakhs Report died and to settle the quarrel over its remains, the Congress appointed a High Power Post-Mortem Com-

mittee of four Congress gods—the acrobatic Nehru, the rheumatic Maulana, the paralytic Pant and the pathetic Dhebar.

These four wise men of the Congress began their sessions of tearing the Report limb by limb with the help of provincial wolves, completely forgetting that the Report had been prepared by their own trusted men and had taken 22 months of our nation's time and patience and had cost us Rs. 10 lakhs.

On 16th January 1956, accompanied by his usual homily on the discipline, responsibilities and obligations of the people, Prime Minister Nehru gave his Government's decision placing the disputed Bombay City under Central administration and creating two separate States of Maharashtra including Vidarbha and Gujarat including Saurashtra and Kutch.

The Prime Minister gave no cogent reasons for this shameful butchery—he never has any cogent reasons—even though he said, "In particular we were anxious to meet the legitimate aspirations of the Maharashtrian people. Bombay City, as is well known, is geographically surrounded by Maharashtra and may be considered a part of it. Even in this city, the dominant and largest linguistic group consists of Maharashtrians. Whatever the fate of Bombay, the Maharashtrians are bound to play a dominant role there."

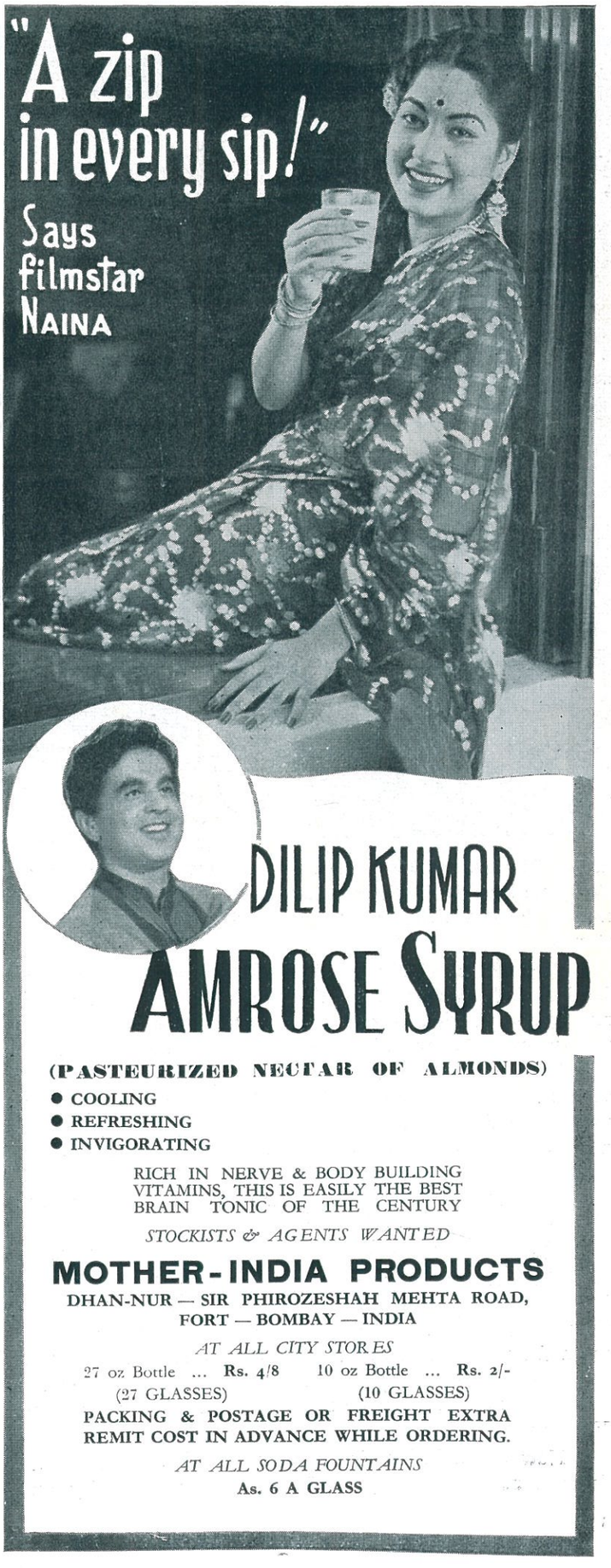
It seems the Maharashtrians have already started playing this "dominant role" and deciding the fate of Bombay by piling up corpses and painting the streets in blood since the publication of Government's decision.

Let us now analyse what Pandit Nehru has said. Pandit Nehru makes three distinct statements:

a) "In particular we were anxious to meet the legitimate aspirations of the Maharashtrian people." Which means that Pandit Nehru and his Government (we) consider the demand of the Maharashtrians for Maharashtra with Bombay as its capital as a legitimate aspiration. Legitimate!

b) "Bombay City, as is well known, is geographically surrounded by Maharashtra and may be considered a part of it." That Bombay is surrounded by Maharashtra is a physical fact which can be seen on a map without having to ask New Delhi. And this fact has been there since the beginning of the history of Bombay and Maharashtra. If that be so then why should Pandit Nehru say "and may be considered a part of it"? It is an equally glaring fact that Pandit Nehru is surrounded by Congressmen. Can we therefore say that Pandit Nehru "may be considered a part of the Congress", when we see that he is the Congress, the whole Congress and nothing but the Congress?

c) "Even in this city, the dominant and largest linguistic group consists of Maharashtrians." This was conclusively proved when the Bombay Municipal Corporation adopted a majority vote on Thursday, December 22, 1955, demanding Samyukta Maharashtra with Bombay City. Out of the 63 city fathers who voted for this reso-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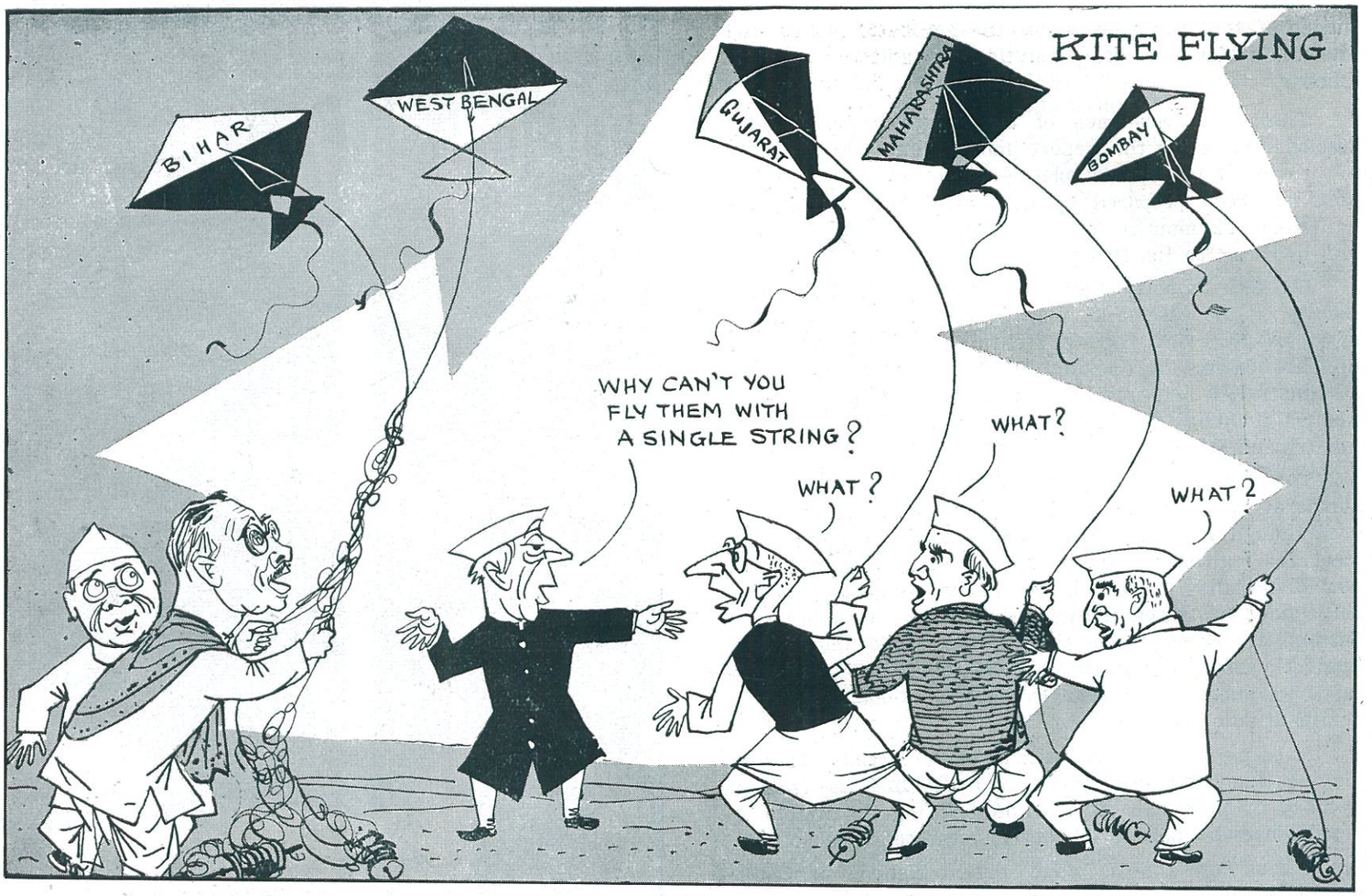

lution, 21 were old, tried Congress members who defied the Party whip to save their conscience. This was a conclusive vote which showed what Bombay City itself wanted.

Thus Pandit Nehru and his Government admit the justice of the Maharashtrian demand and yet turn round and impose a vicious and unjust award on the Maharashtrians. One would naturally want to know why?

Like Pandit Nehru, we are against any linguistic provinces for reasons published long before. We are all for multi-lingual provinces with a babel of many tongues and a crowd of many faces and races. But the Congress seems to be determined to cut the country language-wise and we are therefore compelled to adopt the evil as the best way out of our present misfortunes.

Viewed purely from the linguistic angle the decision of the High Power Committee in respect of Maharashtra is not only wrong but highly unjust. In a linguistic distribution of provinces, language and geography must remain the most important factors. With these two factors in mind the ideal solution, which one cannot escape, would be a province of Maharashtra with Bombay City and Vidarbha.

Now this solution also apparently meets all the other factors, such as: unity of India, national security and defence, cultural and linguistic affinities, administrative convenience, financial considerations and economic progress both of the States and of the nation as a whole.

The unity of India is not disturbed by Bombay becoming the capital of Maharashtra. On the other hand it strengthens national security and defence because Maharashtrians, a brave and headstrong people, will fight to the last man for their capital city and in doing so automatically guarantee national security. Cultural and linguistic affinities have been so much interwoven during centuries that they cannot be separated without causing pain and bloodshed. And when people like Hiray try to separate them by inventing a difference between a Maharashtrian and a Gujarati, it hurts even good Maharashtrians like us, because if we can accept the Muslim, who has often tried through history to invade and convert the province, as a Maharashtrian, what objection can we have to a Gujarati Hindu who is but bone of our bones and flesh of our flesh?

Administrative convenience is a superficial point and hardly deserves a cockeye seeing that Bombay has all along been the capital of Maharashtra and as such has not only provided financial stability to the province but also set an example in economic progress.

Thus from all important points which the Commission

had to bear in mind, Maharashtra with Bombay City and Vidarbha would have apparently been an ideal solution. And yet the States Reorganisation Commission recommended a bilingual state with Maharashtra, Gujarat, Bombay, Saurashtra and Kutch. It must be having very good reasons for doing so—reasons which were probably revealed to them in some of those 1,52,250 documents they inspected or conveyed to them by a few hundred of the 9000 persons they interviewed. We cannot dispute their judgement at this stage, as we do not know what they know. We trusted the members of the Commission as our best men of honesty, intelligence and experience and asked them to do a job for us. They have done their best. We cannot now turn round and say that what they did was wrong and dishonest. It will be caddish to say so. And in denying these trusted men a character we deny ourselves a character.

After the publication of the Report the Congress and the Government had two alternatives before them: (a) accept the recommendations of the Commission in toto and try to work out the scheme at least for ten years (b) reject all the recommendations and shelve the entire problem for ten years, keeping the status quo.

They had no business to set up a post-mortem Committee of an acrobatic prime minister, a rheumatic education minister, a paralytic home minister and a pathetic president and fiddle with the findings of the Commission and in doing so hurt and exasperate people all over the country. If these wise men of the Congress wanted to do all that why the hell did they at all appoint a Commission? They already had the reports of the J.V.P. Committee and the Dar Commission and they could have always foisted on us some solution of their own, as they always do, without turning the labours of the Fazl Ali Commission into a mockery.

And if this post-mortem Committee of four wise men had to impose on the Maharashtrians some solution, it would have been logical to impose on them the recommendation of the States Reorganisation Commission rather than their own stupid decision of dismemberment of a province, the limbs of which have lived and breathed together through ages.

But our nation is led by a man who is more Hamletian than Hamlet himself. He is a noble and sincere man who works hard every minute of his life but he is surrounded by scheming scoundrels and self-seeking spongers. They surround him so badly that till he breaks away, he cannot even get a glimpse of his people. They whisper into his ears so continuously that he cannot even hear the wails of people near him. He has to live by impulses because the design round him is so thick and heavy.

With Bombay and Maharashtra burning let us therefore hope and pray that Nehru gets the right impulse now. He has three alternatives before him now:

1) A bilingual state with Maharashtra, Bombay, Vidarbha, Gujarat, Saurashtra and Kutch—to be known as Paschim Pradesh.
2) A State of Maharashtra with Bombay and Vidarbha.
3) Shelving the whole problem and the Report of the Commission for ten years and sticking to the status quo.

We like the first, Maharashtrians will like the second, all will like the third.

Whatever Nehru does, he must act quickly, before the pile of Maharashtrian corpses grows a permanent cataract of hatred in the Maharashtrian eye for their mild and shivering Gujarati brothers who weep as much over the corpses as do the Maharashtrians.

"Girnar",
Bombay,
Midnight 18-1-1956.

Baburao Patel.

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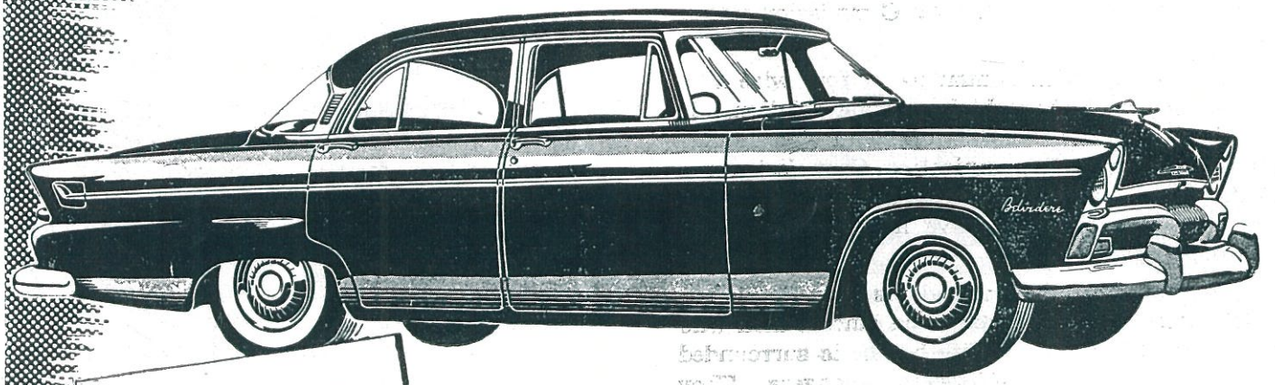

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EDITOR'S MAIL

(In this section, the editor himself replies to queries from the readers. As thousands of letters are received every month—some anxious and several frivolous—it is neither possible nor convenient to attend to all. Selected letters are usually treated in an informative and humorous strain and no offence is meant to anyone.)

Pyjamas give an other-sexly look to young girls and make them more attractive to men. Nargis, a fine piece of workmanship, attracts great attention in "Chori Chori", a romantic tale produced by AVM.

R. SRINIVASAN (Madras)

Marx grasped the essence of capitalist democracy splendidly when in analysing it he said that the oppressed are allowed once every few years to decide which particular representatives of the oppressing class shall represent and repress them in Parliament?

In democracy the oppressed have a chance at least once every few years but in Communism the Russian people did not get a single chance in the last 37 years. The difference between democracy and Communism is that Communism has to win the battle only once while democracy has to win it every day.

T. ADVANI (Bombay)

What is the advantage of marrying a widow?

Whatever chapter you open she knows the text.

S. T. ARASAN (Madras)

The American husband?

That is a jackass who brings home a jackpot every week for his wife.

K. M. RAO (Calcutta)

Woman is an unfinished man, said Aristotle?

That was exactly 2098 years before the declaration of American independence. He said that and escaped.

If we had preserved Mahatma Gandhi's dead body?

That would have also preserved a great crime.

Nehru says that lawyers always look backward?

That is wrong. Lawyers always look ahead. It is the future which brings their payment. Nehru doesn't know this because he was never introduced to a client in his whole life.

What happens when a Gujarati is caught bluffing?

He apologizes and gives you a more polished one next time.

How to spot virtue in a girl?

By counting your own vices.

Is Nirupa Roy good-looking?

Ruins show that the building was great once.

We are getting Visala Andhra?

That is a greater responsibility. Now work hard and make it a greater success.

P. S. SIDHU (Nyasaland)

We have thousands of Patels here but none of them is Baburao Patel?

That is the trouble in India also. We shall need a Fifty-Year Plan to solve the problem.

Why didn't Krishna Menon marry?

We don't have blonde women in India. He likes only contrasts.

Any news about Iris?

When I last heard about her she had eight old boys on the string.

WE HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR DAYS. IRIS WON'T LOOK
BABS HAS A A DIFFERENT TECHNIQUE
BABS IS FAT AND BALD TOO
WHY NOT WRITE AND ASK BABS?

MRS. SUDHA JAGIRDAR (Belgaum)

Was there no better film than "Mirza Ghalib" to get the President's gold medal?

That shows how cheap gold has become.

You always talk of money, money and money only. Are you going to carry it to your next destination? Is there nothing else worth caring for?

There are a lot of things I care for, Sudha, and one of them is my character as a debtor. Do you want me to come back again to pay my debts?

RAJ A. CHHUGANI (Poona)

What is left in Rita Hayworth now?

The tricks she learnt in different beds.

If I hear Baburao singing classical music?

You will be in heaven without having to drink 'nira'.

Is A. R. Kardar a Punjabi?

Every inch!

What is your sincere advice to those male-hunting Anglo-Indian girls?

Leave Poona and come to Bombay. The lions here are dying to be hunted.

Is Indira Gandhi humble?

The Nehrus are strangers to humility. They are known for their polite condescension.

When does Sushila Rani cry?

That is modern India as seen in our clubs and restaurants. It is a bit naked because we export a lot of the cloth we manufacture to earn foreign exchange. Nadira brings what you see on the screen in "Pocket Maar", the "elevating" story of a pickpocket.

When I ask her to swallow her thoughts. Her unuttered words turn into tears.

Do you consider Sindhis as locusts?

Yes, they eat what others grow. They never grow or manufacture anything themselves.

What do Maharashtrians hate most?

Their own frustration. But they abuse others for it.

I am a worm, my friends say?

"Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth," said Jesus Christ.

V. Shantaram is talking through his hat these days?

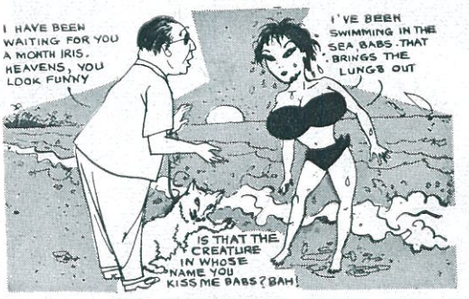
Let him. He has produced a good picture this time.

What makes you work 17 hours a day?

Our Five-Year Plan!

Why doesn't Iris swim back home?

That is an idea. She'll look like Jane Russell's mother by the time she lands at Juhu.


I HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU A MONTH IRIS. HEAVENS, YOU LOOK FUNNY
I'VE BEEN SWIMMING IN THE SEA, BABS. THAT BRINGS THE LUNGS OUT
IS THAT THE CREATURE IN WHOSE NAME YOU KISS ME BABS? BAH!

I have tears in my eyes?

Then mix them up with the tears of the poor and share their pain.

Why do Russians want to plough our fields?

To claim ownership afterwards.

Does Pakistan export lies?

It manufactures nothing else.

How do you pay compliments to an intelligent lady?

An intelligent lady does not need compliments. That saves time.

Why do Pakistani leaders always hit below the belt?

Their whole world is below the belt.

T. A. RAMANATHAN (Calcutta)

What is the best memorial to Sardar Patel?

Bleeding Goa and decapitated Kashmir.

What does Jayaprakash Narayan lack?

He lacks absence of conscience.

No Bharat Ratna to Birla?

A. N. (After Nehru). Even Dalmia will be given one.

Can't Russia attack us in future?

China will oblige us.

What inspired Vankudre Shantaram to produce "Jhanak Jhanak"?

His debts! He took a flying leap and by God's grace landed on his feet.

You praise "Godrej" but "Godrej" does not patronize you. Why?

Should that be a criterion of recognizing a great pioneer? I also buy Godrej products because I spell that name as India.

Nadira is to be wed, sir?

Pray for the man.

Why don't you bless me?

Blessings, Ramanathan, must come from above. Human beings cannot arrogate to themselves this privilege of Divinity however great they may become. I can only send up prayers on your behalf and may the Lord bless you with His divine smile.

MRS. B. NAMBIAR (Madras)

Can you give me a living example of a donkey in lion's hide?

Married women find that in their bed.

P. VENUGOPAL (Cuddalore)

Is beating an American wife a grave crime?

It will hasten the third world war.

MRS. V. RAMANATHAN (Calcutta)

Is Pandit Nehru going to be a Communist?

He is flirting with the idea and keeping our democracy trembling.

If Mrs. Krishna Raj Kapoor had been as talented as Nargis?

Krishna has better talent. She is a mother and home builder. A nation needs happy homes.

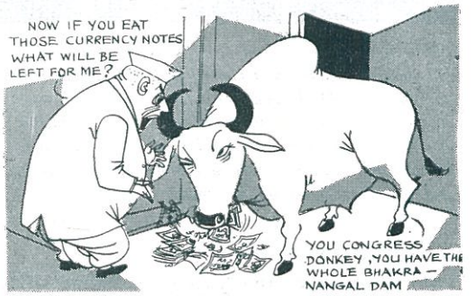
What is K. M. Munshi doing?

Excavating Hindu culture. That is good work but he is a lone spade.

S. R. MHATRE (Bombay)

A bull at Chandigarh swallowed currency notes worth Rs. 600/-?

Must be a Congress contractor's bull.



Where does Nehru breed his peace doves?

In the Jama Masjid of Delhi.

What is cooking in Pakistan?

Nothing. The nuts and the pots are empty.

Why is Jesus Christ coming again?

To settle the quarrels between the monks and the nuns. I don't see any other reason.

Do women like you?

From a mile.

What do Russians expect from India?

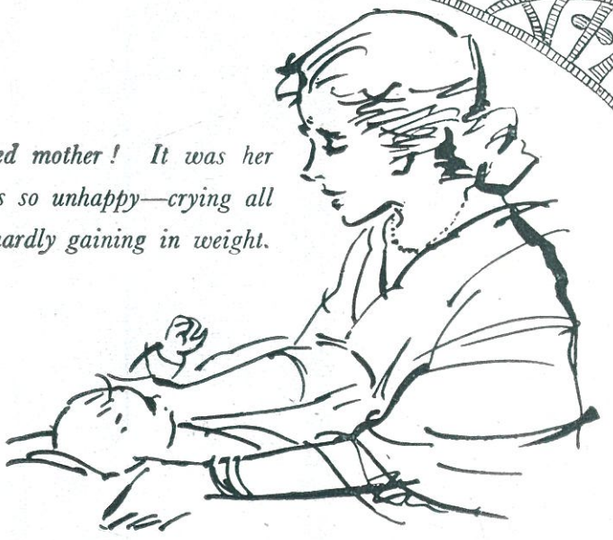
Just India, nothing more.

MISS SHANTA AYENGAR (New Delhi)

Don't you think that too many guests contaminate the Indian atmosphere?

The Russians brought jaundice to New Delhi. Now everyone is looking yellow with the fear of red.

She was such a worried mother! It was her first baby—and he was so unhappy—crying all the time—hardly gaining in weight.



One day, she asked advice from a friend who had a happy, healthy baby! Incredible that he should be the same age as her poor child!

"I give my baby Glaxo" said the friend. "Glaxo is pure, nourishing milk-food to which Vitamin D has been added to build strong bones and teeth; and iron to enrich the blood".

That very day the mother bought 'Glaxo'. Look at him now. He's wonderfully happy! Sleeps so well! Gains steadily in weight—thanks to 'Glaxo'.

★

For a free copy of The Glaxo Baby Book send 8 annas in stamps (to cover postage) to 'Glaxo', Dept. No. G, Worli, Bombay 18.

Glaxo

THE PUREST MILK-FOOD FOR BABIES

G. 8

MRS. PADMA SRINIVASAN (Bangalore)

What motto decorates your desk?

Work on earth and rest in heaven.

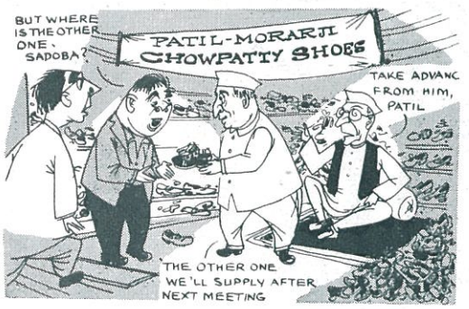
You look quite a harmless bloke with your double chin-cum-bald-head-cum-round face but I wonder if you are such a dull saint as all that?

Why should a married woman be scared?

S. R. MHATRE (Bombay)

Is it true that S. K. Patil and Morarji Desai are unpopular in Bombay?

They are both thinking of going into the shoe business not knowing what to do with the large stock of shoes they collected at Chowpatty.


BUT WHERE IS THE OTHER ONE - SADOBA?
PATIL-MORARJI CHOWPATTY SHOES
TAKE ADVANC FROM HIM, PATIL
THE OTHER ONE WE'LL SUPPLY AFTER NEXT MEETING

B. M. SARMA (Khargpur)

What is the duty of a housewife?

Use her smile to wipe off the frown from her husband's face.

Why do some die with eyes open?

They stare at those who abused them in life as if saying, "Now, fling your last abuse, for you won't get another chance."

V. RAJAGOPAL (Mysore)

What is Khadi?

That is the armour of Congress hypocrites.

M. MUTHUSWAMY (Madras)

"I am an old fool", said Mr. Krishna Menon in the U.S.?

If he lives long enough he will repeat that but not in a tone of mock modesty.

C. S. N. MURTHY (Bangalore)

What shall be your epitaph on Zippy?

He fed a brute by aping human beings.

A. J. MOSES (Visakhapatnam)

Can Nehru denounce Communism at home and hug it abroad?

A man who stands on his head can do many more things.

MISS JYOTSNA S. MODY (Bombay)

If you are left alone on the Moon?

Isn't the Moon a 'she'? That is company, Jyotsna.

This crazy and beautiful "jungli", Nigar Sultana, brings new thrills to the screen in "Mastani", a wild tale of love wildly told.

PREM C. SINHA (Ajmer)

Tendulkar is not accepting money orders. What to do?

He is feeling embarrassed because he has got Rs. 2000/- from the Bihar Government recently. He thinks that money will last him all life.

VIRENDRA MODY (Bombay)

Do these musical conferences make the public music-minded?

No. They only reveal how badly music is organized in India.

MAHARAJ KRISHAN (New Delhi)

I feel Bina Rai is too wooden to act?

But it is wood that smiles.

Do you feel pleasure in calling someone your disciple?

That would be the blind leading the blind.

I liked Mohana better than Bina Rai in "Insaniyat"?

I also gave her a bit of my heart.

GOPINATH (Coimbatore)

What do you think of S.M.S. Naidu? Is he trying to produce any other picture?

He is still digesting the profits of "Azaad".

PRITHI P. SINGH (Chandigarh)

Why do lawyers always wear black?

Don't they always attend the funerals of their clients?

What is rare in America, the land of plenty?

Adult thought.

Why does Pandit Nehru always carry a stick with him?

To give his support to the Congress President.

K. B. NAIDU (B..R. Project)

In spite of "Girnar", isn't it surprising when you declare that your are poor?

What is surprising in that? Is Nehru rich after inheriting Anand Bhavan? He is a bigger beggar than me.

How to stop the dogs barking in the night?

It is an offence to interfere with policemen on duty.

Do you know that the 'Hindu' office is staffed only by Iyengars?

What is wrong with that? Aren't the Iyengars qualified? I have got some South Indian Brahmins in my office too, though they are not Iyengars.

Do you mean to say you can swim in two units?

No, I paint my eyelids with them.

Have you got a valet to dress you up?

A valet? I still clean my own shoes and often sew a button.

Is there a racket in wrist watches?

Wherever there is a high import duty there is always a racket. Selling watches has become a business of scoundrels with very few exceptions. This racket needs to be seriously investigated.

A. L. SETHI (Khargpur)

Navin Yagnik is dead?

What else can a good man do in this wicked world?

K. L. THYAGARAJAN (Kalyan)

Why are the middle-class people always unhappy?

Like the poor they cannot beg and like the rich they have no opportunity to steal.

MISS SATINDER SEKHON (Muktsar)

Why does Nargis weep so easily?

The last time I saw her weeping was when her mother died. And that was years ago.

What do you think of Eden as a statesman?

Another umbrella merchant like Chamberlain. Don't expect anything spectacular from him.

BRAHMA NARAYAN (Lucknow)

Even Russian leaders delivered all words and no goods?

The goods are in America.

Chiang hopes to attack the Chinese mainland in the near future?

He is suffering from a dog bite.

PRAKASH NARAYAN (Lucknow)

Do you get anything gratis?

Abuse—and plenty of it. That is one good thing about abuse, you don't have to buy it.

MANSUKH G. BHAGAT (Bombay)

Why should a woman expect loyalty from her man?

That keeps her away from sin. A woman never has a character of her own. She borrows one from her man.

NOW, LISTEN MY GUJARATI HUSBAND. IF YOU GO OUT ALONE, I GO OUT WITH A BOY-FRIEND
THAT IS ANGLO-INDIAN, RITA. A HINDU WIFE WON'T SAY THAT

Where do you stand on the social ladder?

Right at the bottom. I am never invited anywhere. The khadi aristocrats treat me like a Harijan.

Why is New Delhi full of spinsters?

Too many politicians in their parlours! Fishing needs a quiet spot.

What is Baburao's last word on women?

They are necessary.

I am also a Congressman. But nobody knows me?

Like me! We are the lambs who feed the wolves.

What do you think of Tyagi's army work?

He seems to have completely disarmed the Army. Some generals are even thinking of shaving off their moustaches as useless relics of old times.

Why do you wear such a naked face? I have always wondered!

I can't get a mask to fit me, Manu.

Is Nutan a chip of the old block?

She is fast becoming the old block.

How would you like a Gandhi cap as a gift on your birthday?

Not so soon! They will drag me from my home and make me a minister. Who will write "filmindia" then?

H. P. MANIRAY (Ahmedabad)

So W. Z. Ahmed was your guest in "Girnar". Your bills settled?

No. He came to run up more bills. What else can you expect from a Pakistani?

C. J. SHAH (Bombay)

Which are the three steps to personal peace?

Character, knowledge and prayer.

Do you deserve a statue or two?

THE TASTE OF YOUR TONGUE IS PACKED IN THIS BOTTLE

DILIP KUMAR
TABLE TASTIES'

ROYAL CHUTNEY (SWEET)
The delight of Moghul Emperors now within reach of all

★

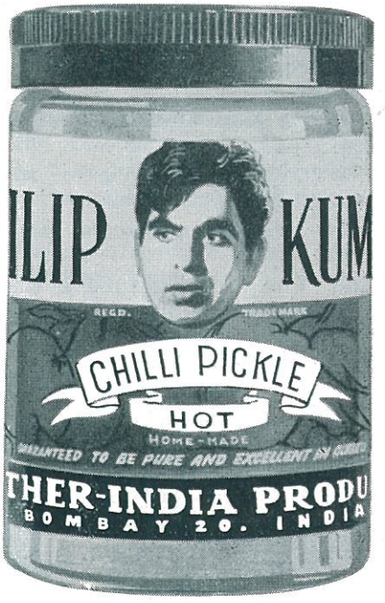
MANGO PICKLE (HOT)
The pride of Maharashtra, superb in taste and flavour

★

LIME PICKLE (HOT)
A universal appetizer and digestive of rare quality

★

CHILLI PICKLE (HOT)
Gives an extra edge to the tongue with a never-to-be-forgotten flavour



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REMIT MONEY IN ADVANCE

THIS IS NOT A CHEAP PRODUCT MANUFACTURED FOR COMMERCIAL PROFITS. THIS IS A GUARANTEED QUALITY PRODUCT PREPARED UNDER MODERN SCIENTIFIC AND HYGIENIC CONDITIONS.

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Women reach an age where it becomes easier to accept them as 'satis'. Here is our charming old Nirupa Roy once again masquerading in the old "sati" role in "Sati Anusuya", a mythological yarn.

One is enough if a monthly pension is attached to it.

Have you been killed by fraternal embraces?

Kardar has been trying for 25 years. But God has been kind to me.

Is not character lost in the rush of the world?

No. Like the man, character is eternal. It is the mould of a man's previous birth and it remains his sheet anchor through several births.

Would you not hate to live in a rented house?

I would love to do so because tenants own the houses these days without having to pay the taxes. And you can make the landlord dance in addition and get some free entertainment.

HIS STEPS ARE NOT CORRECT
NEW ELECTRIC WIRING AND NEW PAINT REQUIRED
OH GREAT MADRASI GENTLEMEN PLEASE FORGIVE ME THIS YEAR. I HAVE NO MONEY TO PAY TAXES
DANCE WELL OTHERWISE WE SHALL SEND THIS TO MUNICIPALITY

What has love done for you?

It has taught me to smile indulgently at some of the filthy personal questions you ask me. Why do you hate yourself so much as to pick the muck and leave the lilies alone?

H. M. KASKAR (Cape Town)

What do you admire in Attaullah Khan?

His bullet-proof head. Nothing from outside can enter it.

What will be the result if you become a Muslim?

I will leave a highway and get into a byway in my journey towards God.

BAL KRISHAN (Aligarh)

Amita—a lovely name! How is the stuff?

Nice and hot! One must, however, blow the stuff before he takes a bite of it.

Sohrab Modi's "Ghar Ghar Men Divali" ran only for four days in this city of about 200,000?

Divali also lasts for four days.

G. SINGH (Payal)

Generally girls get fatter after marriage. But our actresses get so even before marriage. Why?

They don't wait for the ceremony to get the hormones.

P. S. GOEL (Meerut)

Can money make the mare go?

The mare makes the money go these days.

What is the good in being a yes-man?

The responsibility of all mistakes falls on the other man.

Why do you like books and not looks?

Books are cheaper, wiser and last longer.

Is Nehru talkative like women?

Yes, yes, and the men he chooses for his talk are also like women.

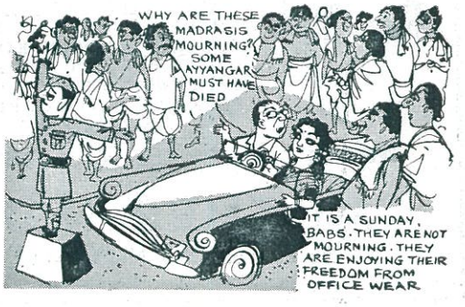
K. A. PATNA (Madras)

Women readers regard you as Romeo?

That is riotous imagination.

How do you find the Madrasis in Bombay?

Nice folks. You see them all over the town on week days and in Matungam on Sundays. On Sundays they tnrow away their shoes, lift their dhoties and carry their towels over their shoulders.


WHY ARE THESE MADRASIS MOURNING? SOME AYYANGAR MUST HAVE DIED
IT IS A SUNDAY, BABS. THEY ARE NOT MOURNING. THEY ARE ENJOYING THEIR FREEDOM FROM OFFICE WEAR

What do you think of a man who puts a cigarette in his wife's mouth and lights it when she does not even know how to smoke?

I know men who put their wives into strange beds and then go out for a walk. Modern times have turned a mother into a machine and an altar into a counter.

What would happen if the followers of E. V. Ramaswamy Naicker decide to marry only Brahmin girls?

They would call Ramaswamy as Akbar of the Blackshirts.

My wife is 100 lbs of mischief and humour?

Put 20 lbs of butter inside her. She will last longer. 100 lbs is only a jockey weight.

Any poet in Nehru's Cabinet?

There was one just outside the Cabinet —Josh Malihabadi. He went to Pakistan and left Nehru sucking his thumb.

"Hubby", said actress Veera once, "is my favourite hobby"?

She is right as long as she doesn't name the man. She is already toying with her second hobby.

J. G. SAMBRANI (Bombay)

Is your son Shashikant fond of Roman Catholic girls?

He is not particular about religion. He is secular in his approach but he goes by age group.

P. L. BHATIA (Mandalay)

What happened to Khan Attaullah Khan's "Nata"?

It failed to establish relationship with the filmgoers.

P. D. JAIN (Ajmer)

What is Amita?

108 lbs of fresh meat.

When is truth painful?

When it is not alloyed with a little lie to make it pleasant.

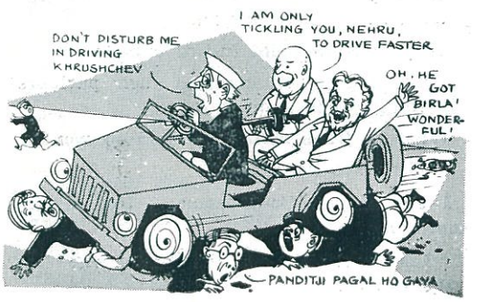
"No two experts agree on any question", says Morarji Desai.

That is why I don't agree with him on Prohibition.

H. B. PATIL (Koppal)

What is hallucination?

Democracy with Nehru at the wheel and Bulganin and Khrushchev in the rear seats.


I AM ONLY TICKLING YOU, NEHRU, TO DRIVE FASTER
DON'T DISTURB ME IN DRIVING KHRUSHCHEV
OH, HE GOT BIRLA! WONDERFUL!
PANDITJI PAGAL HO GAYA

B. M. MALHOTRA (New Delhi)

Do you find the man in your mirror the happiest of all mortals?

Not yet, but these days I feel a glow within which might do the trick one day.

J. N. SAHAI (Dehra Dun)

Is Pandit Govind Ballabh Pant growing younger and fitter as years roll on?

Let him! Nehru needs a playmate in his nursery.

Y. K. KATTIMANI (Bijapur)

No news about Dalmia after his arrest?

Dalmia has issued a declaration of his innocence.

T. K. AIDASANI (Bombay)

A long-bearded Congress M.P., Shri Mitra, kissed Khrushchev several times?

Glamourized crime often becomes very popular.

India is a country of Rama, Krishna, Gandhi and Nehru. What more?

You forgot Baburao Patel and Tirth Aidasani.

N. K. WADHWANI (Bombay)

Why are ballroom dances more popular among Indians nowadays?

The fun is not in the dance but in the arms—it is either another man's wife or another woman's husband.

P. G. NAMBIAR (Madras)

Do you support Sri Prakasa's recent remarks that girl students are more intelligent?

I must first see the girls he saw before I support him. Tastes often differ and with tastes go opinions.

T. G. NAIDU (Amaravati)

Shrimati Meenakshi's greetings, with flower and bare back, are not consistent with the ideal of Indian womanhood. Why has our editor published this brazen exhibition in "filmindia" ?

To persuade other backs to cover themselves with some cloth.

MISS S. SHANTI (Madras)

The days when you were young ..... ?

My youth had no rainbows, Shanti. It had dust storms which kept me groping my way all the time.

R. N. CHARI (Bangalore)

Whom do you worship?

There is Another One inside me who demands all devotion.

I am on the verge of drowning. Can you lift me up?

I am on earth—at your own level. To lift another one must be at a higher level. Why don't you send your prayer up ?

K. B. LALL (Gwalior)

What is a prostitute's wink ?

It is the RSVP-look.

What was marriage to film star Vijaylaxmi ?

An unnecessary storm for a freewheeling trawler.

Do you love your enemies?

No, but I don't hate them either. Enemies have to be there as a part of the landscape.

Is Devdas Gandhi a greater man than Baburao Patel?

Of course! He must be one of the greatest with Gandhiji's cradle and Birla's bank.

How are they discussing the S. R. C. Report?

They are allowing the iron to enter into their souls.

MUMBAI AMCHI
JAO, JAO, GHATI DADA!
BOMBAY, MY FATHER'S
I LOST MY MINISTER-SHIP
THE IRON HAS ENTERED INTO NARAYANE'S SOUL COME DOWN AND TALK YOU FOOLS

M. S. LULLA (Bombay)

Are you a bathroom singer?

Yes, but would a Sindhi understand my song? It begins like this:

॥ ॐ ॥ भूर्भुवः सुवः
तत्सवितुर्वरेण्यं भर्गोदेवस्य धीमहि।
धियोयोनः प्रचोदयात्।

K. D. MAHADIK (Gwalior)

What is there so cultural and beautiful in dhoti and white cap?

In their link with Gandhiji you must trace all culture and in their adultery with power you must find all beauty. You will need a microscope to do so but it is wiser to use one than to say that you are blind.

Looking through history what form of Government do you think will suit the Indian people?

History has stopped repeating itself being disgusted with the eunuchs of the present times. In India the mills of the Vaishyas will soon stop grinding and the monarchy of the Shudras will be proclaimed. The human foot will wear the crown while the head shall sweep the street.

T. G. OSCAR (Madras)

What is a joke?

What you see in your mirror. Try to laugh at it once every day if you want to enjoy life.

C. V. VASUDEV (Bombay)

What does Nehru do on Sundays?

Nehru has no Sundays. His calendar has only Mondays.

Can vice be stolen?

Didn't China acquire Communism?

What is the best part of God?

His modesty. He loves and gives without revealing Himself. When human beings give something they expect a public meeting to be held in their honour.

What is the hardest job Joachim Alva has to do?

Convince the Income Tax people that he is not earning anything.

What does "Current" of Karaka contain?

A struggle for living.

What is Iris Henderson's birthplace?

She is an Igatpuri girl who has gone searching for an English graveyard.

FAMOUS
Jewel Perfumed Castor Oil, the symbol of perfect hair oil, has ever been the choice of those discerning persons who respect quality. It will now be yet more welcome in beautiful new bottle.
JEWEL OF INDIA PERFUME COMPANY CALCUTTA-34.
JEWEL'S
Perfumed
CASTOR OIL
IN NEW BOTTLE
For lustrous hair & lovely look.
For a well-groomed new look.

A photograph can hardly console a woman in love, for youth demands the presence of the man who broke the heart. Poor Jabeen! She just can't bear the separation in "Ragini", a tale of love told in sighs and smiles.

Does S. K. Patil eat onions?

That is what his enemies think. And they suspect him of garlic too.

S. PRASAD (Ranchi)

What has Kutub Minar to tell us?

The triumph of a tyrant.

Why do they prefer high-heeled shoes?

They get inches nearer the lips.

OH, ROMOLA, YOU SHOULD HAVE STILTS, INSTEAD OF CARRYING THE LADDER
BUT WITH THE LADDER YOU CAN'T MOVE DARLING. I HAVE YOU WHERE I WANT YOU

V. T. GEHANI (New Delhi)

Politicians are generally widowers. Any reason ?

Politicians kill their mates first before they turn their guns on the people

G. R. BHAT (Honavar)

Who is a society girl ?

That is a firefly with light in her buttocks and darkness in her head.

B. M. MALHOTRA (New Delhi)

Josh Malihabadi, the 'Shan-e-Hind', has finally migrated to Pakistan?

Allah be praised! Such persons during a war with Pakistan would have been more dangerous.

Can we stave off destiny by prayer?

No, but you can prepare yourself for it better. A willing goat bleeds less.

K. H. VYAS (Ahmedabad)

Getting rapid breathing on slightest fast walk. Age 48. Any remedy?

Take 4 pills of Aconite Nap 30 every half hour for immediate relief and get your heart examined by a specialist.

W. G. MOHAN (Bombay)

Nehru's trump card, please?

Panchsheela. He flaunts it as his Sudarshan Chakra.

If children shout "Chacha Patel" when you pass by?

It will hurt "auntie" sitting next to me.

Dalmia makes news?

Always, whichever way he turns. That is why he bought his own newspapers.

What will happen if S. K. Patil blushes?

The Desh Sevikas will commit sati.

If Dr. Keskar is televised in India?

Television will not be popular in India for another 100 years.

When is a Maharashtrian not a Maharashtrian?

When he is at once intelligent and tolerant.

Who will buy "Girnar"?

That is a 64,000-dollar question.

How do our policemen look upon Prohibition?

They consider it to be a sumptuary allowance.

N. G. KRISHNAMURTHY (Khargpur)

How to respect a mother?

If her milk has failed to teach you that then no sermon can be effective.

S. V. MEHER (Bombay)

I want to insure myself against police firing. Which insurance company would you suggest?

Bombay Provincial Congress Committee. When you get cover from this company you stand behind the policeman.

What is Panchsheela?

That is our national fire extinguisher.

DON'T CATCH FIRE. PLEASE DON'T BURST. I AM FANNING YOU WITH PANCHSHEELA
PANCH SHEEL
IS THAT A NOO BOMB, KRISHNA?
GENEVA
THAT IS A PAPER KITE, YOU IDIOT

B. GOVARDHAN (Waltair)

All buffaloes are nearly alike, but not cows?

Cows take after women.

28th December is my birthday?

That is a good day to be born on. You are a versatile optimist with plenty of energy often misused. Canalize the energy and you will have less disappointments and less nervous breakdowns. Good men are born on this day and the stock of their goodwill can bring smiles to many suffering souls.

India is vast?

No. See the map of Asia and see how big Russia looks.

R. BHASKARAN (Bangalore)

Indira Gandhi doesn't wear khaddar saris?

A wise girl! She won't get eczema.

Why did Mehboob choose Sabu for "Mother India"?

He wants to prove to Vasan that his monkey can speak.

Speeches made by Khrushchev are more forceful than those of Bulganin. Reason?

Abuse has always more force than a compliment.

Are your enemies active or passive these days?

Very active. The whole country is flooded with anonymous circulars containing filth which can only come from human gutters.

K. J. GOYAL (Delhi)

Is poverty inherited?

Poverty can be inherited but it is a disease that can be completely cured.

K. M. RAO (Poona)

Even Rajaji is now convinced that the Russians sincerely want peace?

Bulganin will have to be born seven times to convince Rajaji.

Why do they fill these 'Annapoorna Cafeterias' with silver-haired women?

Food has the flavour of mothers and not the smell of sweethearts.

G. SINGH (Ipoh)

In Malaya most Hindustani films are shown in the country's worst cinemas while the Chinese films, which are most rotten, are shown in de luxe cinemas. Why?

Chinamen own the cinemas and the country.

Chinese in Malaya are rapidly finishing up the dogs and cats although there are other better animals for food. Cockroaches are nearly finished!

There are quite a few Englishmen left still.

V. L. NARAYANA (Howrah)

Is Nargis undergoing any labour pains these days?

Yes, she is playing the mother in "Mother India".

Are there no critics like you in Russia?

They were all executed.

If Marilyn Monroe shakes hands with Morarji Desai?

Morarji will get a Joe Louis punch in his hand. Marilyn is electric in touch.

WHOSE PHADER'S MAHARASHTRA GADGIL?
OH, SADU, THAT WAS ONLY A MINUTE TOUCH. IF I GIVE THE BOY A LONGER EXPOSURE, HE'LL KNOCK YOU OUT
YOU CHARGED HIM WELL, MARILYN

C. J. SHAH (Bombay)

I want to give my blood to Meenakumari as a token of my devotion and infatuation. Will she accept it?

Gujarati blood in Muslim veins? She will give up meat and ask for grass and "gathias".

Independence! Where are thy charms?

In your arms! Use them young man.

Are you accustomed to people speaking ill of you?

That is a national industry now and I can't complain.

How can I enter Nirvana in this modern world?

Read the right books. Begin with our Upanishads.

Is there ample security of life and property in India?

After the reconnaissance visit of the Russian bandits?

How does a man feel when his child is his carbon copy in looks?

Isn't that a public exhibition of a private purpose?

Have you travelled alone through the dreary journey of life?

No. I had God with me.

From where can one get the essentials of sex knowledge?

Have you tried a woman?

Lips, however rosy, must be fed. With what?

Lips are cannibals. They live on other lips.

I saw in a dream you and Sohrab Modi shaking hands?

You don't need a dream for that. We do that on the racecourse every week.

P. V. R. SYAMALA RAO (Bhojudih)

If Meenakumari gives birth to a child?

She should blame her husband. Not you and me.

MISS VIJAYA PATIL (Bombay)

Does your criticism tell?

Doesn't it? Men like "Acharya" Atre forget their culture and abuse me and in doing so prove my criticism right.

What is Vijaylakshmi Pandit's future?

Study Maniben Patel's present.

If Dr. Keskar scratches his head?

He will get only an eczema but not a new idea for All India Radio.

What has happened to the 'genius' part of Kishore Sahu?

He paid it as interest on his debts.

A foreigner said, "Indians marry loudly".

But live quietly afterwards. Foreigners don't know how to do that and go to the divorce court.

J. M. MULIYIL (Kasaragod)

When will India flow with milk?

When we stop the sale of uplift brassieres and change the present accent on the female form.

What is an Anglo-Indian girl's love?

It is a dewdrop which leaves the lover dry in daylight.

When will rebirth stop?

Never! The mill of evolution is eternal. Earth is a school for polishing a man and make him finer with every birth.

Who is Humayun Kabir?

He is the manager of the Azad Educational Boarding House.

What is Naseem's bank balance?

Naseem has preference shares in a private Bengali banking "pedhi" where she can cash a cheque even at midnight.

What do you think is wrong in Christian teaching?

The fetters of the Church which threaten a purgatory. In a religion of love, there should not be any fear or vindictiveness.

When will Shyama marry?

Crystal gazing? When things go wrong, these young ones get worried and try to think without, of course, having the machinery for it. Vyjayantimala is facing a crossword problem in "Taj", a romantic tale.

She is now too old to marry. Flowers are picked in their bloom.

What is the latest picture produced by W. Z. Ahmed?

He produced only one picture in nine years and it is called "Roohi".

What is Hiray's bank balance?

Ask Russi Karanjia of "Blitz". Russi is the Minister of Congress Bank Balances.

Name one place where "filmindia" is not found?

I would have said "paradise" but it is also going to Soviet Russia these days.

N. K. VERMA (Ranchi)

Why did Nehru choose Mahavir Tyagi as Defence Minister?

Probably to show how little he thought of our army.

R. L. NAKRA (Jullundur)

When Baburao Patel chases an American blonde?

Baburao Patel is not a damn fool. Those blondes are alimony traps.

Who discovered Gulzarilal Nanda?

Gulzari is Morarji's 'darbari'.

An astrologer tells me that I would some day be a somebody?

Now do a good turn to him and be somebody?

MISS RANJINI ANANDAN (Ranchi)

Is the friendship given by Russia to India sincere?

After her own run-away marriage, Gita Bali is now well qualified to play a gipsy role which looks dangerously like the one in "Fabulous Senorita". This one, however, is in "Mohar" which is a mere love tale.

No. In the Devil's gift-box there are no virtues stocked.

HELL'S COAL SHOP
ANGEL'S LAUNDRY
SHAKE HANDS, BROTHER, DON'T QUARREL. WE ARE IN OPPOSITE TRADES
KEEP YOUR DIRTY HAND AWAY. YOU RUINED MY TRADE. NOW YOU WANT TO RUIN MY SOUL BY CALLING ME BROTHER.

MANOHAR M. (Simla)

Will Arab ties get stronger now?

Oh, no! One Arab doesn't make an Arabian Night for us.

What have Soviet leaders left behind in India?

Like Cadmus they have sown the dragon's teeth and will soon throw the precious stone too to start bloodshed.

Does life prove better in country cottages?

Not unless you have some poultry of your own in your bedroom.

Does a gheewala actually sell ghee?

There is one in Bombay who sells meat —good walking meat.

Why do only ugly women join politics?

Men like to keep their beautiful wives at home instead of sending them on a doubtful adventure.

V. SEEVARATNAM (Badulla)

It is a surprise to hear from you that Kamini Kaushal has three children?

What is surprising about that? Not all actresses believe in birth control.

S. KUMAR (Pilani)

What international problem is Nehru solving these days?

He is trying to find out the nationality of Krishna Menon's angry appendix.

P. C. SINHA (Arrah)

Has India become a place of pilgrimage for dignitaries abroad?

They want to see it before the "Khadi Curtain" gets dyed red.

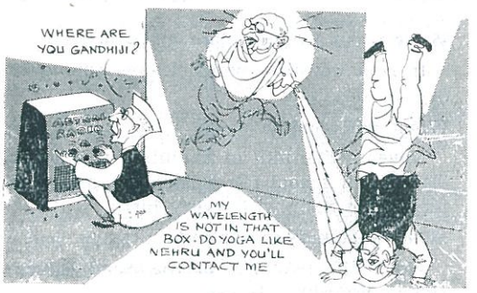
What do they mean by 'Security Council'?

That is a chamber where they wash and dry linen after a rape.

GUL H. MIRCHANDANI (Tangier)

Death is the time of resting. Is it a fact?

Man never dies and never rests. Death only shifts a man to a different plane of existence with a different wave length.



M. L. MOHAN (New Delhi)

"Police can raise people's morale", says Dr. Sampurnanand. What do you say?

The Bihar police lifted the students right up to heaven.

P. V. ACHAR (Vijaywada)

When do monkeys feel self important?

When the devout listen to the exploits of Hanuman. Like human beings monkeys also live in the mirror of the past.

A. MOOKERJI (Calcutta)

My mother has given me faith; my wife has given me inspiration; to whom should I be more grateful?

To the nipple from which you sucked your religion.

What is your definition of a woman?

A rib that was once removed but could not be fitted in again.

Yours is a colossal mind armed with a mighty pen; is it not sheer tragedy that the edifice of your genius is built on a "trite film mag" which cannot possibly have the flare and pedigree of classic literature and hence cannot help you in your bid for immortality?

Who wants to be immortal in this ungrateful world? The dust of those who die doesn't hurt the eyes even if you fall into the ashes of their burning corpses, for we burn these days men who have already died a thousand deaths before they reached the final pyre. Immortality after so many mortalities would only be a mock ceremony of fame and achievement.

K. PONNUSWAMY (Poona)

There are no churches in Soviet Russia?

There are but they are used for storing grain.

Does Dilip Kumar know sword fighting?

Yes, but the sword must be wooden.

P. K. KANTILAL (Bombay)

Acharya Atre knows a lot of abuses?

And yet they say Poona is the centre of Maharashtrian culture and education.

Are you in financial distress?

Yes, our democratic government is trying to crush me in various ways. It doesn't like my criticism.

J. S. THAMBI RAJAH (Batticaloa)

Who is better and likeable between Padmini and Vyjayantimala?

Padmini! She is more warm and womanly.

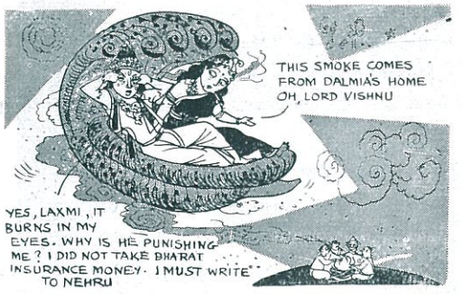
Does God matter to a multi-millionaire?

The fire and smoke of "yagnas" in Dal-

PRIZE WINNERS FOR FEBRUARY

1st Prize to J. M. Muliyil (Kasaragod); 2nd Prize to S. R. Mhatre (Bombay); 3rd Prize to R. A. Chhugani (Poona); 4th Prize to K. A. Patna (Madras) and 10 consolation prizes to the following:— P. S. Sidhu (Nyasaland); T. G. Oscar (Madras); S. Prasad (Ranchi); Miss R. Anandan (Ranchi); B. Govardhan (Waltair); H. B. Patil (Koppal); A. Mookerji (Calcutta); K. D. Mahadik (Gwalior); P. K. Johri (Khargpur) and D. P. Ghelani (Calcutta). Money orders and copies are being sent to all the prize winners.

mia's house these days won't let God sleep.


THIS SMOKE COMES FROM DALMIA'S HOME OH, LORD VISHNU
YES, LAXMI, IT BURNS IN MY EYES. WHY IS HE PUNISHING ME? I DID NOT TAKE BHARAT INSURANCE MONEY. I MUST WRITE TO NEHRU

G. V. B. RAJA RAO (Madanapalle)

What is the achievement of our film delegation which visited China?

Kamini Kaushal brought home some Chinese costumes to pose for some film magazines.

H. L. SHARMA (Delhi)

A resident of Rohtak has named his newly born son "Bulganin Singh". How come?

A Sikh.

V. B. S. CHAUHAN (Mainpuri)

Are you on good terms with Mr. S. K. Patil?

I have not yet discussed terms with him but I have respect for Patil's intelligence and organizing ability. I like a man who keeps his eyes and ears open in a blind and stupid world.

S. G. HUDDAR (Nagpur)

If I put quinine in Mrs. Patel's face powder?

You are an amateur. You must put it in her lipstick if you want me to taste the quinine.

A. J. MOSES (Vishakhapatnam)

When is Nehru seen in his true colours?

When he is distributing foreign posts to Nehrus, Kauls and other Kashmiris.

K. CHARY (Khammam)

What is the fear that haunts you?

That I may live long in spite of ulcers, Atres and income tax.

S. KRISHNAMURTI (Bolarum)

Do you receive any charity?

A poor man cannot afford to be proud. Besides, charity is a blessing. But where is the charity? Abuse is not charity.

E. S. SOANS (Calcutta)

What is Feroze Gandhi doing?

He has just started speaking. Don't discourage him by asking more questions.

H. G. JUGAT (Bombay)

Is it good or bad to spend sleepless nights for a lady love?

With the lady sleeping in another man's arms? You could use the oil to light your own home.

M. G. SOMAN (Amravati)

Can you suggest a cure for appendicitis?

The surgeon's knife is the only effective cure.

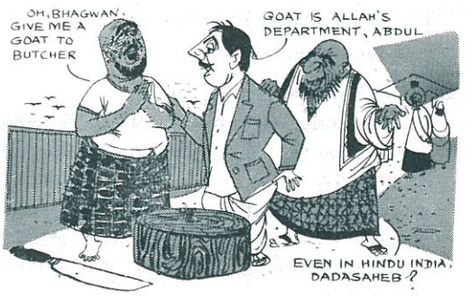
R. SRINIVASAN (Kalyan)

What has David Marshall learnt from Nehru?

David sat at Nehru's feet and learnt foot-stamping.

Are our prayers answered?

Yes, but it all depends on what, how and whom you ask. There are different gods for different gifts and different hymns for different occasions. These days even God has to multiply Himself to satisfy all tastes.



M. S. LULLA (Bombay)

What have you to say regarding the Bombay Corporation's vote on the issue of Bombay City's inclusion in Maharashtra?

It is decisive. There should be no quarrel now. And yet there will be bloodshed for the priests of politics want sacrifice.

MRS. SUMAN BORIKAR (Hyderabad)

I love my husband and none else. Any comment?

Newly married, eh?

S. R. MHATRE (Bombay)

The film on 'Sai Baba' flopped?

But the film showing Bulganin's visit will draw crowds. Think it over, son.

Is your son Shashi a good Christian?

No. His neighbourhood is not attractive. Poor boy, he doesn't get even a dog's chance to be a good Christian. That is rather tough on an enterprising young man.

K. K. CHHUGANI (Bombay)

Have you ever seen your wife in your sweet dreams after marriage?

Those in bed don't jump into dreams.

A. N. PATROD (Ahmedabad)

Can learning and loving go together?

All learning in this world must ultimately teach a man to discover love, for love is God.

Only in youth a smile can be carelessly thrown at the world. Chitra brings new life to the screen in "Hatim Tai Ki Beti", a fantasy.

J. RAI (New Delhi)

Where do you stock your sins?

My enemies file them for future reference.

M. S. SHANKER RAO (Warangal)

Do you believe in borrowing money?

I do and in paying it back too. In the first transaction a man's reputation is involved, in the second his character.

E. V. CHHAPWALEY (Uran)

Why do men show more readiness to marry a virgin than a widow.?

Men like to chase dreams and often miss realities.

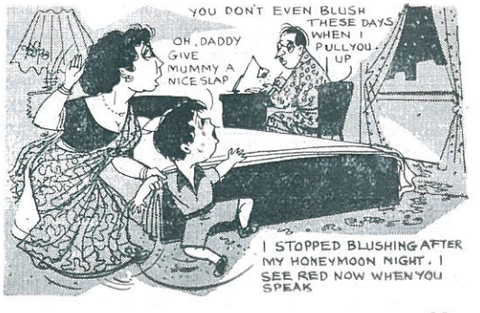
At what age do Americans reach maturity?

In 1776 the Americans declared their independence. They have been growing since without reaching maturity. America is still a nation of adolescents.

MRS. H. K. RANGANAYAKI (Poona)

What is blush? Is it perpetual?

Blush is an apology of youth. How can it be perpetual when youth itself is a short season?


YOU DON'T EVEN BLUSH THESE DAYS WHEN I PULL YOU UP
OH, DADDY GIVE MUMMY A NICE SLAP
I STOPPED BLUSHING AFTER MY HONEYMOON NIGHT. I SEE RED NOW WHEN YOU SPEAK

You being one of the Press lords, how do you welcome the present Working Journalists' Bill?

Press lord? You make me laugh, Ranganayaki. I don't even own a printing press, leave alone being a press lord. The Bill in question turns an intellectual worker into a factory worker and robs him of all glamour.

Did Eve possess any mirror at all?

She had Adam's eyes.

Did the Russian leaders call on you?

They spoke a lot of nonsense in the country but they were not that mad.

K. B. NAIDU (B.R. Project)

Is it possible to be a perfect gentleman?

Nothing wrong in trying. Do we stop praying because we don't see God?

R. G. MIRAJ (Bombay)

If Gandhiji had not been assassinated?

We would have had one god too many.

MISS MANIK BHANDARE (Bombay)

Outcome of Shankerrao Deo's fast?

His constipation was cured.

A. L. SETHI (Khargpur)

How are Anglo-Indians treated in England?

They are not noticed: Englishmen quickly forget their adulteries.

MISS VIJAYA PATIL (Bombay)

If Nehru employs you to write his words?

He is a good wordsmith himself.

P. D. GUPTA (Ajmer)

What is the last word on Goa now?

The boil will burst when Pakistan is fully armed.

B. VISHWANADHA RAO (Hyderabad-Dn.)

I want to give you a tea party. Will you come here or shall I come there?

We'll consider the tea party as given and taken and stick to our towns.

V. VENKATACHALAM (Madras)

In spite of their misdeeds why are Congressmen getting most of the votes?

Because the alternative amounts to supporting the crimes of Communists. Misdeeds are a lesser evil.

G. N. PAI (Bombay)

Are donkeys necessary?

How can you sort out the mules otherwise?

Have you kissed a college girl?

Would I get a degree if I do?

R. K. TAKKAR (Jullundur)

I am reading books on Gandhi these days?

Too late, the spoils have been distributed already.

The general elections are coming nearer and nearer!

Nehru's recent speeches in Malabar proved that.

A. D. JAIRAJ (Bombay)

While paying tribute to Prime Minister Nehru on his 66th birth anniversary, S. K. Patil said, "No man during the last two hundred years had enjoyed such world-wide popularity as Pandit Nehru." Do you agree?

No. Patil should have said 2000 years.

A. P. SINHA (Shahabad)

I am dead tired after each question I put to you....?

Take an ounce of Amrose Syrup twice a day in eight ounces of milk.

MRS. LAKSHMI (Nandikotkur)

Describe a Cabinet?

In Nehru's Cabinet the cockroaches live inside all the time, in Morarji's they are rarely found inside.

I read your answers and remain ankle deep in wonderment!

Next time stand on your head so that your brain gets a wash.

My husband regards my smiles as flowering isles in the ocean of life and agony. What does that show?

Take him to a brain specialist before his condition gets worse. I had a friend who began the same way and ended in a lunatic asylum.

B. VISHWANATH (Madras)

What does Dulles mean by his statement with Cunha?

Dulles is a poor politician. He is making the Communists popular by his stupidity.

S. SHABUDDIN (Madras)

Muslims live to eat. Do you agree?

I do, but they are not satisfied with food alone.

D. N. BAILEY (Meerut)

Isn't Indira Gandhi very beautiful?

Her nose runs away with her face.

What is the most striking thing in Bina Rai?

Her vacant look.

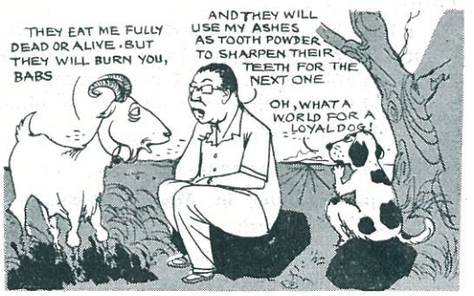
P. K. JOHRI (Khargpur)

How did your father manage to produce a son like you?

And he looks such a quiet man. Some people do miracles.

Would you like your brain to be preserved after your death?

A dead man's brain doesn't answer questions. A dead goat's brain can be at least made into cutlets.


THEY EAT ME FULLY DEAD OR ALIVE. BUT THEY WILL BURN YOU, BABS
AND THEY WILL USE MY ASHES AS TOOTH POWDER TO SHARPEN THEIR TEETH FOR THE NEXT ONE
OH, WHAT A WORLD FOR A LOYAL DOG!

I thought Congressmen would usher Ram Raj but alas?

I am glad they failed. The original Ram Raj ended with Sita being buried alive and Ram and his brothers committing suicide in a river.

What is Morarji's favourite pastime?

He is fast becoming a good baby-sitter.

Your opinion of Shrimati Durgabai Deshmukh?

I have not met the lady. I can't therefore give you an opinion on her. But reports say that she is a very sincere and intelligent social worker.

Nehru likes the life of a gipsy. What about you?

I like the luck of a Kashmiri Brahmin.

Is heart a temple?

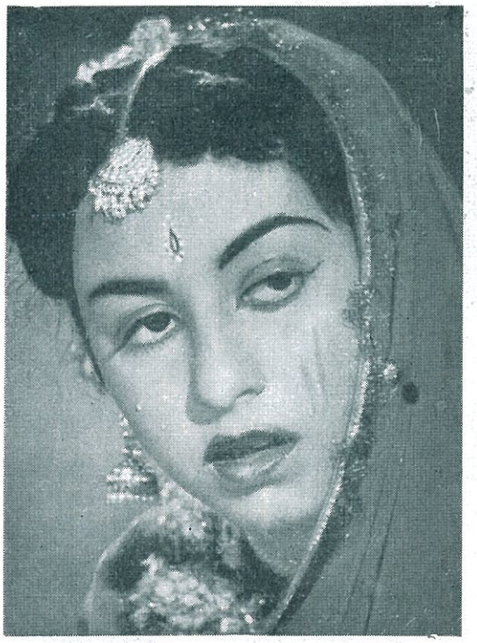
Yes, if you burn in it the incense of good thoughts.

Does money make a man intelligent?

Yes, because the world round him becomes stunned and stupid.

SPARE TIME INCOME FOR WOMEN

Those women, who have ideas and can draw them on paper and in doing so tell their neighbours how to dress and look smart, can send their ideas and sketches to us and get paid for them. We invite sketches and articles on everything that women do, undo or should do, or wear, don't wear or should wear. And we pay well for these. And we can, if necessary, keep the name a family secret. Write today to: The Editor, Filmindia, Fort, Bombay.



Glycerine gives a bad name even to the tears of a crocodile, leave alone those of a woman. Glycerine is good for constipation but then film producers use it for emotional catharsis and in doing so don't give their artistes a chance to shed some natural tears. Poor Jabeen has to take her tears from a glycerine bottle in "New Delhi", a social romance.

K. SYAMSUNDER (Bombay)

What is wrong with our women?

They don't like homes and bedrooms these days.

IT IS TWELVE, LET US GO HOME, DEAR. I HAVE TO GO TO WORK EARLY
OH, DON'T BE SILLY. THE NIGHT HAS BEGUN. LET ME HAVE A COUPLE OF WHIRLS WITH THIS WHIRLWAY
YOU TAKE MY WIFE ASHOK, AND SPIN AROUND

C. V. VASUDEV (Bombay)

Is Para still a spinster?

Poor girl, don't call her a spinster. It sounds so old and neglected. Call her a virgin.

Is Prithviraj proud of Krishna Kapoor?

I am proud of her. She is providing a Kapoor with the back-drop of home and respectability.

Does Kantilal believe in good manners?

All insurance salesmen have affable manners. They sell a smile first before they sell a policy.

Who discovered Begum Para?

Protima Dasgupta. And she owns all the rights.

What is the most civilized form of wrestling?

Ballroom dancing. You never fall on the ground. You always fall into the bed, with the man always the winner.

V. SEEVARATNAM (Badulla)

Do the tube wells in Bombay give any trouble?

No, they don't suffer from cold. They are dry.

Is it true that the Government of India's advertisements are seen in newspapers which are not read by the public?

That is mostly right. Popular newspapers and magazines hold independent views which the Government doesn't like. Our Government patronizes only its stooges.

What is Vyjayantimala's mother, Vasundhara Devi, doing now?

Getting her daily meals from the Gemini Studios and living on the charity of Mr. Vasan.

How many children can an ordinary clerk afford to have?

Children be damned! An ordinary clerk must not have even a wife. Where is the sense in asking a good and innocent woman to share a man's misfortune?

K.C.P.P. RAO (Guntur)

Has not Indira Gandhi a bright future?

No, her future ends where her present stops.

D. P. GHELANI (Calcutta)

Have you ever been to a Garba recital performed by Gujarati virgins?

The Gujarati "garba" is neither good dance nor good music and its virginal symbols are too poorly developed to attract attention.

J. C. MOORJANI (Poona)

Currency notes are so charming!

That is why Kuldip Kaur tried to multiply them.

"The really Big Powers are Soviet Union, India and China", says K. A. Abbas.

We must express our gratitude to Abbas for including India.

Is Sunil Dutt a vagabond?

Give him a couple of years more.

Is K. Asif's Parsi friend still alive?

Oh, yes, and God bless him. And may he live a hundred years! A greater financier was never born.

Is Chandulal Shah rising again?

He cannot rise again. His head is still swollen.

How I wish Geeta Bali's marriage could inspire other spinsters!

It has, but where to get another Sammi Kapoor?

Rs. 300/- EVERY MONTH IN 14 PRIZES

The following prizes will be awarded every month for questions which are considered interesting or elicit interesting replies in the "Editor's Mail".

1st Prize: Rs. 100|-; 2nd Prize: Rs. 50|-; 3rd Prize: Rs. 30|-; 4th Prize: Rs. 20|- and 10 Consolation Prizes of one copy of "Grey Dust", each worth Rs. 10|-.

A reader can ask as many questions as he likes but those letters which bear the Priority Coupon will be answered first. A reader gets three coupons free per copy and he has therefore the chance to catch the bus thrice every month. Questions should be neatly written, or typed if possible, with some blank space left between two questions. It is in this blank space that the editor writes his replies. Unless the letters are signed they won't be considered.

In awarding prizes, the editor's decision shall be final and absolutely binding and no correspondence will be entertained about the distribution of the prizes.

The names of the prize-winners will be announced in "filmindia" every month and the prize money will be remitted by money order while the copies of "Grey Dust" will be sent by registered post.

Cut the coupons below and fix them to your questions if you want to be answered quickly.

1 PRIORITY COUPON
CUT HERE FEBRUARY 1956

2 PRIORITY COUPON
CUT HERE FEBRUARY 1956

3 PRIORITY COUPON
CUT HERE FEBRUARY 1956

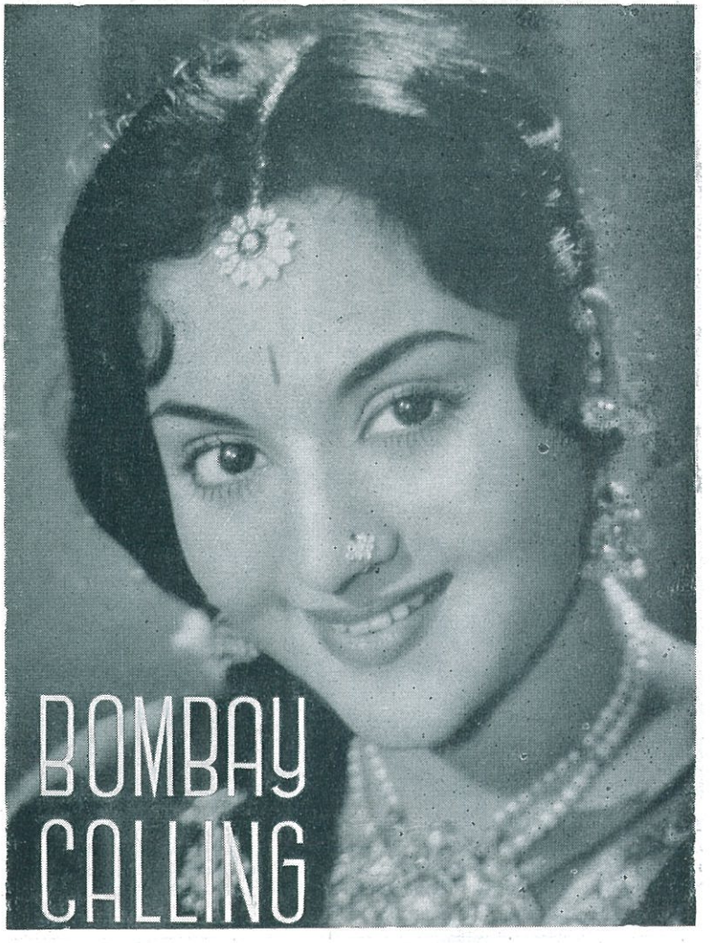
A GORGEOUS MUSICAL ROMANCE WITH THOUSAND THRILLS !

FOR PARTICULARS :—

RUP KAMAL CHITRA 201-B, KHETWADI MAIN RD., BOMBAY-4.

This section is the monopoly of "JUDAS" and he writes what he likes and about things which he likes. The views expressed here are not necessarily ours, but they carry weight because they are written by a man who knows his job.

BOMBAY CALLING



Almost a bride with those jewels! But they all look like brides at that age. Vyjayantimala always wears her own jewellery in pictures because most of her producers usually sell their wives' jewellery to pay her. Watch this scintillating star in "New Delhi", a social tale.

CALLING BENEGAL RAMA RAU

Pakistan, our beloved neighbour, may not have a democratic government but it certainly has a patriotic set-up, which zealously watches the interests of its small and big industries primarily from a patriotic angle.

When Pakistan's film producers—a community as unreliable as their colleagues in India—recently thought loudly of inviting some top artistes from India to work in Pakistani pictures, the Government of Pakistan promptly issued the following Press Note:

"The Government had noticed that national film producers are inviting film artistes and technicians from other countries to participate in films produced in Pakistan without obtaining the necessary permission from the Ministry of Industries.

"The procedure laid down by the Government is that: (1) The company that proposes to engage foreign technicians or artistes would submit to the Film Development Directorate, Supply and Development, details about persons to be employed stating their qualification and the terms demanded by them together with the copies of the contract, etc.

(2) "The Film Development Directorate would then ascertain whether a person of the required qualification is locally available and if not they would obtain the views of the Pakistan Mission in the country concerned through the Ministry of Industries in respect of the terms demanded by the technicians with due regard to the remuneration that a person of similar qualifications gets in his home industry.

(3) "The Ministry of Industries may thereafter settle, in consultation with the State Bank of Pakistan, a fair scale of remuneration and other terms which should be offered to the persons concerned."

The main point in this Press Note is that as long as a person of the required qualification was available in Pakistan, the local producer would not be permitted to invite anyone from India or any other country to work in Pakistan.

We are completely in agreement with the Government of Pakistan in imposing this condition. As long as there is one man unemployed in Pakistan, the producers have no business to import people from outside and give them jobs. They have to build their national industry on local talent, for an industry that is raised with imported props can neither be indigenous nor stable in the long run.

But what this new infant nation has realized so early has been completely missed by a mature nation like India, that is Bharat. India, that is Bharat, is so damn big a country with so many rackets and industries falling over one another that any sabotage of nationalism by that doubtful race of human beings called film producers is not noticed so easily.

We have had therefore Ragini, a Pakistani pussy, working in "Chamkee" because the Punjabis connected with the picture could not find a suitable heroine in the 1,138,814 square miles that is India.

Then came Shahina with her aggressive mother and suspicious father. They came without money and stayed two months in India and once again the Punjabi producers were the first ones to rush and offer them film contracts.

Ishrat, a blue-eyed boy from Pakistan, was imported into India by Producer A.R.Kardar, the great Indian patriot whom our Government sent as a delegate to the Middle East, two years ago and Ishrat is still in India under the screen name of Darpan not only earning a fancy living in this country but also having his share of fun with the local girls. Now, we can get a thousand boys like Ishrat in India, but of course, Kardar could not find them and he had to get one from the Mecca of his dreams.

In olden days girls covered their faces and drew in their chests in modesty. But not so now. These days they throw the chest out at you and stare till you dissolve in your own shoe. See how Shashikala does it in "Krorepati", a tale of love punctuated by money.

Another Pakistani pup who tried to yelp in India was Noormahomed Charlie—the old Ranjit actor. Two more in Khurshid and Nur Jehan are soon expected to land in India if they have not already landed.

It is not exactly a state secret that our unemployment figures are going up every day. The unemployment situation in the film industry is worse than in the other industries. We have every possible type of talent in acting and technique lying unemployed in films these days. We don't need anyone either from Pakistan or Hollywood.

As Pakistan has got a State Bank of Pakistan, we have also a Reserve Bank of India. But the State Bank of Pakistan is active and patriotic, the Reserve Bank of India is evidently not seeing that Ishrat has been living and dancing on our soil for the last two years and in doing so depriving one Indian Muslim of his bread and butter.

We don't ask the Muslim producers in India to employ any Hindu against their own creed and instinct but they can certainly provide for Indian Muslims who also need jobs as badly as the Hindus. Isn't it better to feed an Indian Muslim rather than call one from Pakistan? Even the Quran thinks that charity should begin at home by feeding the nearest hungry man.

But we don't expect our producers to improve. Like the Pakistan Government, this problem must be solved by the Indian Government, particularly by the Reserve Bank of India in association with our passport and police authorities. But Sir Benegal Rama Rau, the Governor of our Reserve Bank, is perhaps too old and sleepy now to wake up with a fit of patriotism. And that is a pity in mature India, that is Bharat.

TAKE BACK PRINCELY LOOT

The new year began auspiciously with the news that due to the death of the former ruler of Rewa, the Government of India got a windfall of Rs. 1.5 crores by way of estate duty. That, however, still left behind, in the hands of his heir, another Rs. 1.5 crores of undeserved wealth which we badly—very badly—need for our multi-purpose projects.

In August 1947 when we acquired the major stake of India Ltd., we got rid only of the British Managing Agency by transferring the controlling shares to the Indian National Congress. In acquiring possession of India, the Congress, however, did not inherit all the wealth of the country as we had then quite a big brood of princes—native princes as they were called by the British—who held considerable estate in India, that is Bharat. This part of India was called Princely India and consisted of over 500 big and small scions of eighteenth century warriors with different shades of "blue" blood running in their vicious veins.

Emulating an old British strategy, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel promised annual privy purses to these money greedy princes and took over all the states, lock, stock and barrel. This feat of Sardar Patel, unique in the world's history of statesmanship, cost us Rs. 4 crores every year—an expenditure for maintaining a brood of princely parasites—utterly useless to the nation either as princes or as persons. During the last eight years we have already paid these parasites over Rs. 32 crores—undeserved money which we can ill afford.

From the 4-crore annuity paid by our people, the following 17 princes take the major loot: The Nizam of Hyderabad—Rs. 50 lakhs; Baroda—Rs. 26.50 lakhs; Mysore—Rs.26 lakhs; Gwalior— Rs. 25 lakhs; Jaipur—Rs. 18 lakhs; Travancore-Cochin—Rs. 18 lakhs; Jodhpur —Rs. 17.50 lakhs; Bikaner—Rs. 17 lakhs; Patiala—Rs. 17 lakhs; Indore—Rs. 15 lakhs; Bhopal—Rs. 11 lakhs; Rewa—Rs. 10 lakhs; Nawanagar—Rs. 10 lakhs; Bhavnagar—Rs. 10 lakhs; Mewar—Rs. 10 lakhs; Kolhapur—Rs. 10 lakhs; and Cutch—Rs. 8 lakhs. Under Article 291 of our Constitution this expenditure is treated as annual dowry and no income-tax is charged on it.

Actually our princes do not need the privy purses at all. They have so much personal wealth—both hoarded and invested—that they can remain fabulously rich for twenty generations to come. Seeta Devi, the Gaekwar's single misadventure in bed, decamped with Rs. 3 crore worth of jewellery and the Gaekwar told New York re-

porters: "I don't care about the jewels any longer. I want divorce". A man who doesn't care for jewels worth Rs. 3 crores must be very, very rich. He is already reported to be in love with a film actress called Virginia Keiley and we shall have to wait for some time before we see some more Indian wealth decorating her neck.

The Nizam of Hyderabad carried a caravan of 40 favourite wives when he visited Bombay last. That is the number of first favourites. The number of second favourites, third favourites, flukes and those that sometimes run into place money cannot even be guessed. In addition to the wives, the Nizam even now possesses 36 motor cars, 7 buses, 2 trucks—all free of taxation. His wealth in lands, palaces, gold and jewels would be the envy of Croesus. What does this man then need Rs. 50 lakhs-a-year as privy purse for—and from poor, starving Indians?

The kick which the Nizam gets out of his harem of wives, George Shinde, the five-foot potato of Gwalior, seems to get out of his circus of race horses. George has horseflesh worth lakhs of rupees and he probably loses lakhs of rupees every year on the races. Why does this guy want Rs. 25 lakhs every year from poor, half-clad Indians when over a quarter of Bombay's buildings belong to him?

Harisingh of Kashmir—the man who tried to stop Pandit Nehru on the borders of Jammu with a bayonet and injured him in the process—now enjoys Pandit Nehru's hospitality and pension in India and can be seen on the racecourse every day—a shameless reminder of a shameful past—enjoying the free and democratic atmosphere of this country and wasting his undeserved pension in race horses and gambling.

The "Mahrooja" of Morvi, another profligate who wastes India's money overseas thinking that it is his own grandfather's wealth, is another prince who has lost a fortune on the racecourse.

Had all these princes earned all the money by hard and honest work and then gambled it away or spent it in other pleasures, we would have no grievance at all. They have the citizen's primary right to do what they like with their own money. But the money which these princes are spending is a part of the loot they have taken from the people through several generations. It is money dyed in the blood of our people. It does not belong to the princes—certainly not in these times when we have adopted a socialistic pattern of society as the sheet-anchor of our national destiny.

The princes have enjoyed their ill-gotten wealth long enough under the aegis of the super bandits of Britain. All their wealth must be taken back. They have neither legal nor moral title to it. And this wealth which will easily run into several hundred crores of rupees is going to be very useful to us for our Second Five-Year Plan. We won't have to resort to deficit financing with all this superfluous wealth lying idle in criminal hands. If we cannot take away this wealth because of our democratic Consti-

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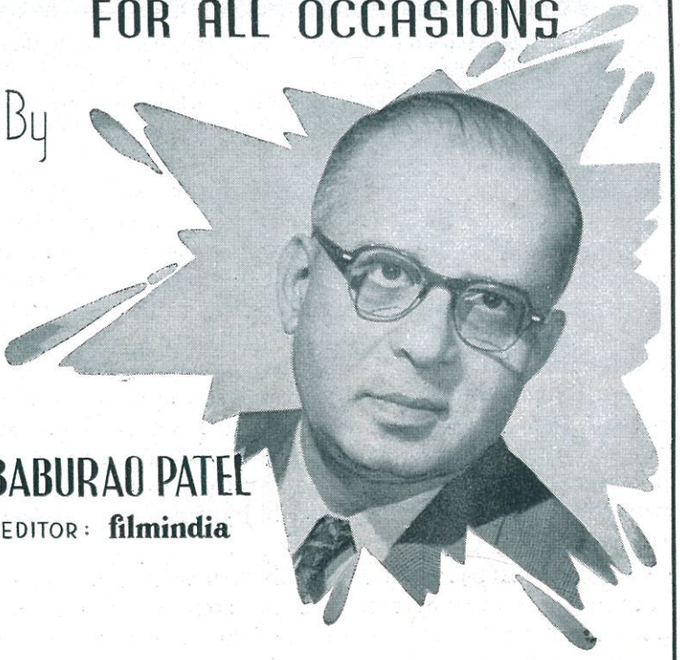

BABURAO PATEL

EDITOR: filmindia

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That is what is happening to free India. The Western rhythm is making our boys and girls crazy and no longer are they worried about our ancient culture and modesty. Film producers are rushing this degeneration of our people by popularising Western modes of life. Here are Shashikala and Kishore Kumar contributing their bit in "Krorepati", a social entertainer.

tution, we must change the Constitution suitably to be able to do so. The treatment given to the princes in the present Constitution is already discriminatory and as such it clashes with our concept of equality of status and opportunity embedded in our Constitution. And if we do not want to take the wealth away, we can still compel the princes to give all their money to the State as a loan bearing interest and we can use the money for our Second Five-Year Plan. Something must be done and quickly otherwise most of the people's wealth in the hands of these princes will either be carried overseas round women's necks or turned into horse-dung on the race-course.

In June 1954 when Pandit Nehru sent a circular to these princes asking them to make some voluntary sacrifices in their privy purses for the sake of our country, the princes rushed to Bombay, bribed some newspaper editors and launched a virulent propaganda against Nehru.

Once again in August 1955, Home Minister Govind Ballabh Pant wrote personal letters to some of the princes requesting them to give urgent favourable thought to the suggestions made by Pandit Nehru in 1954 with no concrete result.

If Nehru and Pant think that these princes will let go their ill-gotten wealth under the featherweight pressure of circulars of request they are both living in a fool's paradise. Parasites don't have even a conscience, leave alone decency. The princes can understand only measures of strength and using strength on our princes to recover a part of people's property once looted is better than going with a begging bowl to the unwelcome doors of America or Soviet Russia.

Something must be done quickly to harness this huge hoarded wealth for nation building purposes. If we wait for the princes to die to collect a part of their wealth in death duties, we shall wait for years and years, for princes like all sinners live long.

RAPING WITH BETEL BLOOD

India is an ancient land of diseases. From the inevitable little town crier in the cradle to the screaming demagogue on the public platform everything has become a chronic disease with us. Though our population experts say that we just do not have food enough for more mouths, we still continue to fill the cradles because filling up wrong things and feeling the difference has become a chronic disease with us. Similarly, though Nehru, our most beloved demagogue, throws out enough words every day to satisfy the hunger of ten nations, we still rush to Chowpatty and Ramlila Grounds to hear little trumpets of anarchy and socialism being blown by coughing chests, because tickling our ears with strange words is a chronic disease with us.

Between the two natural ends of the cradle and the grave we have thus a thousand habits which have now become bones of our physical existence and therefore chronic diseases of our social life.

Spitting is one such chronic disease. Spitting has been a religious heritage in India. Fearing the future popularity of dry throats and drier tongues of people like Morarji Desai, our ancestors provided additional provocation for spitting by chewing betel leaf and betel nut. Betel leaf chewing is a harmlessly carnivorous occupation which makes the mouth and the tongue blood red without a person actually having to be a cannibal. It is peculiarly suitable for Gujarati vegetarian mouths which like to feel that in swallowing betel-blood they indulge in a virile occupation of strength and violence.

Some people add more spice to this carnivorous occupation of the human jaws by adding a pinch of tobacco to the betel leaf. This additional spice creates more saliva in the mouth and we often see people rushing about with diarrhoeic haste searching for corners to empty the mouth of its blood red liquid. And the next minute you see the corner of a virgin wall red with the rape by the betel leaf.

This rape has become so common that not one wall in any public building is chaste any longer. Nor is any pavement. The only time when some Parsis enjoy the colour of the betel leaf is when some one from the first floor of a building spits it out on the snow-white Gandhi

cap of a Congressman. We saw even Karaka and Karanjia embrace each other in sheer glee when they saw a spectacle like this once. But for this doubtful occasional benefit, we have to suffer the revolting sight of seeing a thousand staircases of all possible buildings painted in the betel blood coming out from thousands of human mouths.

It is no use telling Indians what amount of infectious germs the human spit carries and how it helps to spread diseases like tuberculosis and other blood and lung diseases. Any appeal to the Indian masses on grounds of health and hygiene must necessarily fail in this country because the Congress ministers of education insist on keeping our people uneducated to hold them as good Congress voters.

We shall therefore not waste words on grounds of health and hygiene seeing that some of the walls and staircases of our local hospitals are also painted in betel blood. If the doctors who work there cannot object to the rape of these walls, why should we?

We therefore invite a law against indiscriminate spitting—a penal law which will sanction a heavy fine, a good whipping or even a few fasting days in a jail. That alone will cure the Indians of this chronic disease of spitting all over the country.

It is with such thoughts in mind that we feel like congratulating Mr. L.R. Dalal, the District Collector of Ahmedabad for issuing a notification that "no person shall smoke or spit in the office premises" of Government buildings and threatening to convict those who contravene the order with a fine of Rs. 50|-.

Can't we get a few more Collectors like Dalal who would begin the good work by looking after the Government buildings at least? The good work might spread to other buildings and save our people from a number of infectious diseases.

THE VOICE OF GOD

"Vox populi, Vox Dei", which means "the voice of the people is the voice of God", is an old Latin maxim which has made more history than any other principle or ideology of ruling human beings. Like the voice of God which suddenly bursts out of heaven when the human cup of sin overflows, the voice of people also needs a lot of provocation before it makes itself heard and felt.

It was the voice of our people that caused the British to pack their kit and depart. It was the voice of our people that made Gandhiji the father of our nation. And it is again the voice of our people which has made Jawaharlal Nehru the beloved of a nation. It is always the gruff angry voice of the people—which demands justice, through bloodshed if necessary—that has written new history. No power on earth can deny the demands of this voice once it starts roaring. In their voice, people thus have the cure for all their ills. Politics is the science of harnessing and harmonizing people's voice and make it sing a party anthem.

In a free country the voice of the people need not be violent because it has no alien opposition but it can certainly be firm and coercive if it meets with a deaf response. In the unnecessary wrangle over linguistic provinces, politicians have been experimenting with the dynamic power inherent in the voice of the people and have been trying to harness it to serve individual ambi-

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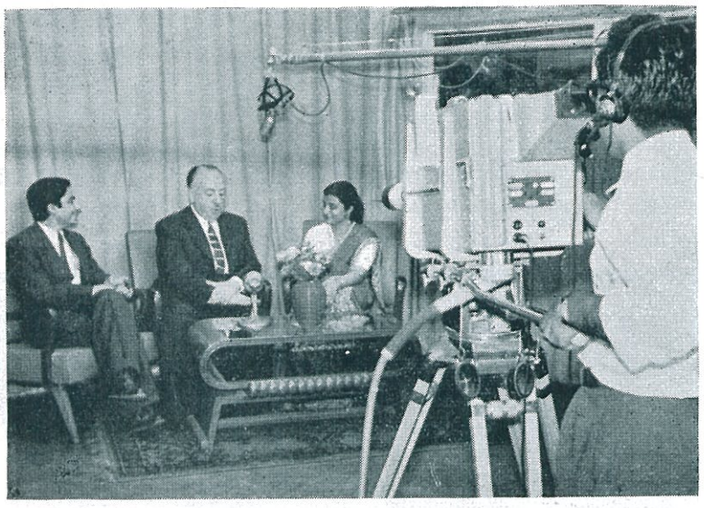

Alfred Hitchcock, the famous Hollywood producer, was interviewed by Mrs. Amita Malik at the Philips Television Studio which made new TV history at the Indian Industries Fair in New Delhi.

tions. These experiments provide a good scope for study to a student of democracy who wants to measure and compare the sanity of the people with the skill and cunning of the politicians.

Politics apart, the dynamic power inherent in the voice of the people can be used in many walks of life to improve living conditions or to right many social wrongs.

Filmgoers in Junagadh seem to be the first to realize this. They have sworn to make the voice of the people heard as the voice of God. They have united together and now demand value for their money from local cinema owners. They want the following minimum requirements in theatres: clean and good sitting accommodation, no overselling of tickets, adequate sanitary arrangements and prohibition of hawkers inside the auditoriums.

This is the minimum they want but one day a united community of filmgoers can also demand, and rightfully too, a good and satisfactory picture. If the exhibitor fails to give it, then he may be asked to refund the admission money collected by him.

Junagadh cinema owners are trembling these days because once the voice of the people is roused it becomes angry and impatient. And an angry and impatient voice often expreses itself in riot and arson. Panchsheela negotiations have therefore been opened between the filmgoers and the cinema owners of Junagadh in which the cinema owners promise to fulfil all the conditions laid down by the people if they are given sufficient time. The torch that sets fire to rickety cinemas has evidently frightened the cinema owners of Junagadh and let us hope they keep this covenant with the filmgoers and carry out all the improvements necessary to insure entertainment with minimum amenities demanded by the filmgoers of Junagadh.

Now Junagadh is not the only town where we have bad cinemas. With the exception of perhaps a hundred cinemas in the whole of India, all the remaining 3100 cinemas in the country are rotten in every respect.

Let us take for an example some theatres in Bombay, the first city of India, over which every one is quarrelling these days.

On the Lamington Road alone we have three ancient theatres in the Imperial, the Minerva and the Lamington. These are painted and patched-up stables which pass as theatres because the police and the municipal authorities have been bluffed into accepting them as theatres by exercising the usual tricks. Take the area known as Playhouses. Almost every theatre in this area is not only a stable of filth but also a den of vice and crime.

The filthy theatres which give the beautiful city of Bombay a bad name can be demolished either by honest and art conscious police and municipal authorities or by the voice of the people in angry and fiery temper.

What is true of Bombay in this respect is more true of smaller towns where unscrupulous exhibitors continue to squeeze money out of filmgoers by providing them with some doubtful entertainment under the most primitive conditions.

We receive a number of complaints every month about our dirty theatres from readers all over the country. We have often published some of these letters in the distant hope of waking up the showman's conscience in these theatre owners. But most of the theatre owners, as we have often said before, are just unscrupulous scoundrels and want to make big profits with the least investment and inconvenience to themselves and therefore do not care what amenities the filmgoers want as value for their money.

The law cannot hurt them because they purchase protection from the law from those who sell it by monthly instalments. But the voice of the people can make them dance if they are shown the face of the people in addition in the light of a burning torch.

Thus the torch which the filmgoers of Junagadh are now burning in the darkness outside their local theatres has shown a way to millions of filmgoers all over the country to get their grievances remedied. All they need to do is to unite and raise the voice of the people and show their grim faces in the burning torch.

WHITE BOSSES OF AMERICA

Ignorance is a crime in a free country and free people must know who are their benefactors to be able to express their gratitude in time—at least before others call us ungrateful.

Now, though we have been a free people for nearly nine years, we have never been told how grateful we ought to be to the Paramount Films of India Ltd., a subsidiary company of the Jewish-American firm of producers —the Paramount Pictures Inc. of Hollywood, for solving our unemployment problem in a big way by causing employment of thousands of Indians in the country.

Kum Kum and Shammi Kapoor sit out the dance in "Sipah Salar", a romantic thriller. What they do next, we don't know. See the picture if your are curious.

Dr. Keskar, our bald Information Minister, never gave us this vital information which concerns the bread and butter of thousands of Indians and the character and ignorance of millions of Indians who ought to have prostrated themselves in gratitude before their benefactors.

It was left to the kind graces of Stephen Clug, the new Managing Director of Paramount Films of India Ltd., to reveal this information right on the eve of our Second Five Year Plan which has kept us worried about providing employment to millions of Indians.

Writes Stephen Clug in a local weekly, "Paramount Films of India Ltd. presently employs 56 nationals and has one American director (That is Clug, the Paramount plug). Its approximately 24 pictures released each year provide welcome entertainment for countless people in cities and villages throughout India. As Paramount does not own any theatres in India, (as M.G.M. and 20th Century Fox do) its product is exhibited solely in Indian-owned theatres. Thus the films distributed not only provide entertainment for millions but employment for thousands."

Had Stephen Clug, the Paramount plug, not told us this, we would have passed out of this world in sheer ignorance and missed all enlightenment. Stephen Clug has thus saved us from spiritual death apart from saving thousands of our countrymen from unemployment and starvation.

Wilson, the local limping lion of the M.G.M. would, however, think differently. He releases about 40 pictures a year and wants to know whether Clug has an exclusive circuit of theatres for his 24 pictures where thousands of Indians are employed regularly? And there are nine other foreign producers—all showing their pictures regularly in India.

Now, if all of them begin to make the same claim like Stephen Clug, they will have together employed millions of Indians and made our 2nd Five Year Plan successful in a jiffy. That would leave nothing for the Indian producers to do with their 200 and odd pictures every year and Mr. S. S. Vasan, the President of the Film Federation, would have nothing to shout about from month to month.

M.G.M.'s limping Wilson is still trying to solve Clug's crossword puzzle and working out how with only 24 pictures, Clug could employ thousands of Indians and additionally entertain "countless people in cities and villages throughout India" seeing that the total playing time taken during a year by Paramount for 24 pictures in big cities like Bombay and Calcutta is hardly 30 weeks and from 10 to 12 weeks in smaller towns. And Wilson wonders, and so does his very own secretary, where these "villages throughout India" are which show Paramount pictures but not the M.G.M. product, considering that hardly 150 stations, big and small, out of a total of 3200 theatres in India show a foreign picture.

While other white-skinned managing directors feel quite hurt and bruised because of Stephen Clug taking all

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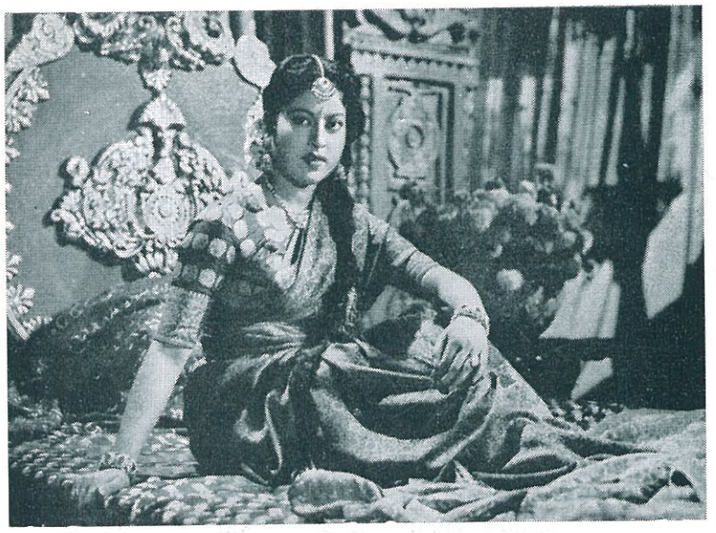

All dressed and ready to kill. That is a life-size danger to a man in a hurry. Meet Anita Guha at her best in "Chhoo Mantar", a romantic tale produced and directed by M. Sadiq.

the credit for employing thousands of Indians, some of the Indian managing directors think that little Clug is trying to fool the "damn natives" by pulling some wool over their eyes. And they say that some of these white-skinned managing directors who are put in charge of Indian offices have no intrinsic qualifications for their jobs but are put there only to insult and humiliate Indians and establish American superiority while doing so.

We do not know how far this grievance is true but in the Paramount Films of India Ltd., which provides "employment to thousands of Indians", Mr. Vaidyanathan, the present Sales Manager who has put in over 10 years expert service, ought to have been made the Managing Director instead of bringing in a new man like Stephen Clug whose knowledge about India and Indians should not go beyond the tourist pamphlets of the American Express.

Another Indian who perhaps cannot be trusted with the post of the Managing Director seems to be Mr. Agate, the Sales Manager of the Universal Pictures. He has been with the company for 30 years. And yet when the Universal wanted a Managing Director, they picked up a white-skinned man from the Regal Theatre in Bombay, sent him to Indonesia for some training and appointed him as the Managing Director in Bombay, brushing aside Agate's seniority, sincerity and salesmanship.

When three leading companies of America—the Columbia, Warner Bros. and R.K.O.—can run their Indian distribution offices efficiently for years without a single half-drunken, homosexual white-skinned man bossing over the show, why can't the other companies do the same? Someone must answer this question.

These days quite a few white men are being provided jobs in India by foreign producers at the cost of our country and its people. Some of these white bosses treat Indians like dirt. Very recently we have been reported a very sad case in which an expert and experienced Indian executive of great merit and influence, a man who had slaved for years for his foreign bosses day and night, was suddenly dismissed because of a Catholic conspiracy against him, a conspiracy in which the white-skinned boss of the company was persuaded to do injustice to the Indian for considerations other than business. This is a grim and filthy story of graft and perversion which we hope to expose in public interest as soon as we get the necessary documentary proofs, which have been promised to us.

In the meantime we shall be grateful to the Clugs and Plugs of America if they stop adopting a patronizing tone towards Indians and not talk of "employing thousands". We expect the Americans who come here for business to nurse and respect the sentiment of Indians and not insult them by such fantastic patronage. No self-respecting people would like this.

YOU'LL HARDLY BELIEVE —

THAT Vijayalakshmi Pandit, Nehru's darling sister, was voted the best dressed woman of 1955 by the New York Dress Institute's Culture Group. After that a hundred Gujarati girls can be sent to America to sell "khadi hundies". But how are the Americans to acquire the famous Nehru complexion which makes the cheapest khadi stuff look like the most expensive Kashmir silk sari?

THAT to guarantee an international atmosphere and keep Pandit Nehru constantly in the Panchsheela mood, as many as 40 countries of the world have to maintain their embassies in New Delhi. Nehru says we supply to these embassies chauffeurs, messengers, gardeners, chowkidars and sweepers. That is not a compliment to the Menons and Aiyyangars of India who brag about their administrative talent so often.

THAT addressing the 43rd Science Congress at Agra, Pandit Nehru said, "Politicians often talk so much that it is difficult to find sense in what they say." That is what we have been telling Panditji last eight years but he won't listen. Let us hope his present confession guarantees us some peace in future.

THAT Chaplin-moustached Congress comedian Dhebar did a Gandhi the other day when he went to a Harijan bustee in Delhi and insisted on taking a free dinner from the poor Harijans. At the end of the free dinner, he gave the poor Harijans a free speech on the virtues of remaining Harijans through ages. After that the Congress comedian left the Harijans where they have been for over 2000 years and went to entertain the members of the High Power Committee of the Congress. Dhebar himself is a multi-purpose project of the Congress.

THAT Dr. Pattabhi, the Governing Pensioner of Madhya Pradesh, says that his education was completed in jails where he read 30000 pages in English, 10000 pages in Telugu and 1000 pages in Sanskrit. Can't we send some of our ministers to jail and educate them a bit before the next elections? If they read a thousand pages of Sanskrit they can kill the people with confusion.

THAT Jayaprakash Narayan, the one-time lion of Socialism, has at last given up hope. Says Jayaprakash, "Socialism will come to India but not through me because I have no magic wand to usher it in." Incidentally J.P. also said, "I am a family man and I do not want to become a saint." That shows where the magic wand was lost. He had it as long as he was observing celibacy.

THAT having nothing else left to praise on his 69th birthday, K. M. Munshi, the Governor of Uttar Pradesh, praised the power of his pen. "Years ago", said Munshi, "a young woman fell in love with a man, a character in one of his novels. Curiosity brought the woman and soon the woman became Mrs. Lilavati Munshi." Lilavati was too young then to know the old proverb: Curiosity killed the cat.

THAT Pandit Govind Ballabh Pant's Uttar Pradesh is the biggest province in India in all respects. The staff recently engaged in "consolidation work" found as many as 31 lakh errors in land records of 6588 villages of 14 districts. Anything in that huge company (31 lakhs) can neither be an error nor a vice. Don't they say that vices of a majority are virtues of a nation?

THAT in New Delhi, Nehru's Indraprasta, thousands of people are becoming yellow with jealousy and Congressmen call the disease jaundice to give it a scientific complexion. Strangely enough most of the people struck by this new disease are those who were someone in Delhi's old ministries. Princess "Nectar" Kaur is of course trying to kill the "yellow flies" with the fly-killing "machine" she brought from China.

THAT the Socialists of Uttar Pradesh, who thought so far that Congressmen kidnapped their children for homosexual purposes, were shocked to learn that a cannibalistic sect of Sadhus, known as Aghoris, has been busy lifting up tender children (Komal) and making "kabobs" out of them for dinner. Poor Congressmen, they are always wrongly accused by someone or other. And all because of their lily-white purity in mind and dress.

THAT the "donkeys" of Dravidastan want thirty years to learn Hindi while the elephants of Annamalai in the South are already reported to be experts in carrying out orders given in Hindi, something which Tyagi's military boys still cannot do. No wonder, Nehru sends out our elephants as ambassadors.

THAT Gul-Gul-Zari, our Planning Minister, has now seriously taken up the unemployment question for the Second Five-Year Plan by calling in New Delhi a conference of the representatives of the 25 lakhs bottom-scratching sadhus of India. Gul-Gul-Zari wants to give employment to these fellows, who always get food and shelter without doing any work, thinking that we are short of manpower.

THAT our Labour Minister Khandubhai Bulsari had accumulated some tears during his stay in New Delhi. He therefore went to Bulsar and shed them in a public meeting over the memory of teachers who had taught him once in Bai Avabai High School. They, however, did not teach him how to solve labour problems and that is what Khandu Bulsari must have shed his tears for.

THAT the police of Bijapur gave a start to the Centenary celebrations of the Bijapur Municipality by raiding its offices and recovering rat traps and tin boxes which though they actually cost Rs. 3|8 each were purchased for Rs. 9|4 each with of course the world's best intentions. So the Municipal authorities were caught in their own rat traps.

THAT flinging a jibe at Pandit Nehru, N. Sanjiva Reddi, Deputy Chief Minister of Andhra, said that if Bellary or Kolar was not given to Andhra, "we have to conclude that agitation pays despite repeated assurances by national leaders that they will not be influenced by

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any agitation". Oh, Sanjiva, how soon have you forgotten the storm which the ashes of Potti Sriramulu created and in doing so gave birth to Andhra?

THAT of all our ministers of Central Government, little Lal Bahadur, our Railway Minister, is a real "Bahadur" the way his South Western Railway continued to pay an employee his salary even three years after his death. Why not, we ask, seeing that our railways are making profits?

THAT the wife of a government servant sent a reply-paid telegram to the Chief Minister of Hyderabad State inquiring whether her husband could take a second wife. She thought the Chief Minister was in charge of the dog licences.

THAT the tragedy of a sinecure was emphasized the other day when C. Rajagopalachari, an ex-Governor, said. "The Governor's job is a more difficult one than that of the minister", the reason being, "the Governor has to find out the work and then do it whereas the ministers have their duties awaiting them in the Secretariat". Rajaji evidently is missing both: work and no-work.

THAT after reading comedian Om Prakash's latest story "Gateway of India", Producing-Papa Khan Attaullah Khan congratulated Om and said, "Not in fourteen years have I heard a story like this", and agreed to let his daughter Madhubala work in the picture. The best story which Producing-Papa Attaullah had come across so far was "Nata" which he himself produced and if Om's is second best then "Gateway of India" must be written off as a flop right in the beginning. Poor Om! He always goes to the wrong men for getting his certificates.

THAT Raj and Nargis went all the way to Pondicherry recently to solve their personal problem. After meeting the Mother at the Aurobindo Ashram, they are now talking of opening an ashram at Chembur where

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Jagirdar is naturally annoyed. Who wouldn't be with a dull and dead woman like that? But irritating people is evidently Anita Guha's special art in "Chhoo Mantar", a hilarious comedy with punctuations of love, produced and directed by M. Sadiq.

they could lead a spiritual life away from gossip-mongers of the film industry.

THAT after being busy for eight years producing "Mughal-e-Azam", Producer Asif went on a location-hunting tour with his buddy Dilip Kumar. They had good hunting in Delhi, Agra, Jaipur, Ajmer etc., during Christmas and they didn't feel the biting winter because of the "locations" being well watered and well packed. To Asif, who leads the life of a celibate, these location-hunts turn out to be real pilgrimages.

THAT Kamini Kaushal confesses that dreams play an important part in her life. It seems she persistently dreamt that she was in a foreign country without her husband. And true enough she was soon in China without her husband. How many modern wives can be so lucky as to be anywhere without their husbands? Kamini has always been a lucky girl in this respect.

THAT something must be done to rescue our good, old girl Mehtab. She is reported to be suffering from severe migraine due to Sohrab Modi telling her the stories and myths of all his productions from "Hamlet" onwards. Had the President not given him a gold medal for his "Mirza Ghalib" poor Mehtab would not have been so ill.

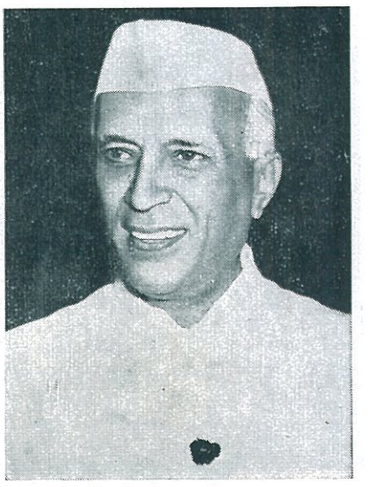
THAT Orson Welles, the hard-up genius of stage and screen, went so crazy seeing our dance queen Sitara's performance in London that he chased her for days till he got her to talk to him. And when he did get her talking, Sitara said, "You are not the first genius I have met. I have one of my own in India. His name is Asif."

THAT the Continental trip which Dev Anand and his wife Kalpana had sometime back seems to have done a lot of domestic good to them seeing that Dev is now likely to be a father for the first time. It is all a family secret yet as both cannot believe their luck. But friends can see the "luck".

REVIEWED IN HOLLYWOOD

by

Our Special Correspondent



"This is not a malicious tirade against all pictures coming from Hollywood. This is a deliberate campaign only against bad and dangerous pictures—pictures which contain lust, crime, violence and other anti-social elements. Good pictures from Hollywood or from any other country are always welcome. Like all good things they sell themselves. But bad and dangerous pictures have to be pointed out to save our people from becoming degenerate and demoralised members of society. Hollywood producers have turned America into a big colony of violent and sadistic criminals. This section is therefore intended to prevent that tragedy in our peace-loving, non-violent country". Baburao Patel.

"By and large the pervasive influence of films is very great. It is not only pervasive but also widespread. Its influence may not be as deep as those of books, yet it is a strong influence in moulding the lives of people.....I am clear in my mind that crime and horror stories should be suppressed ruthlessly. Such stories were a hundred per cent bad, causing sadistic crimes. Such films encouraged children to murder for the sake of pleasure. No government or society should allow such things to flourish. Government ought to take ruthless action to prevent something turning into an instrument of evil." Prime Minister Nehru at the Film Seminar on February 27, 1955.

STORM FEAR (United Artists)

CAST: Cornel Wilde, Jean Wallace, Dan Duryea

"Storm Fear" is a thoroughly obnoxious picture which tells a sordid, unpleasant tale enacted by thoroughly contemptible and murderous characters. The hero is a bank robber and a wilful criminal. He has not only adopted crime as his career but has also produced an illegitimate son and then got the mother of his illegitimate son married to his brother, he himself being married to another woman at the time of his illicit affair. In order to keep himself from harm this man is mean enough to do anything and yet the picture subtly tries to glorify this base criminal and to win audience sympathy for him. Besides this hateful character, the picture has other unscrupulous characters. There is a shady girl who hobnobs with criminals and then meets a treacherous death. There is another criminal who because of his lust for money does not shrink from murdering his girl-friend and from trying to do away with his partners in crime. And there are many more unpleasant things in the picture which make it a completely sickening experience. This extremely putrid piece of entertainment has no business to be shown in India and we expect our Censors to be intelligent enough to ban this filth from Hollywood.

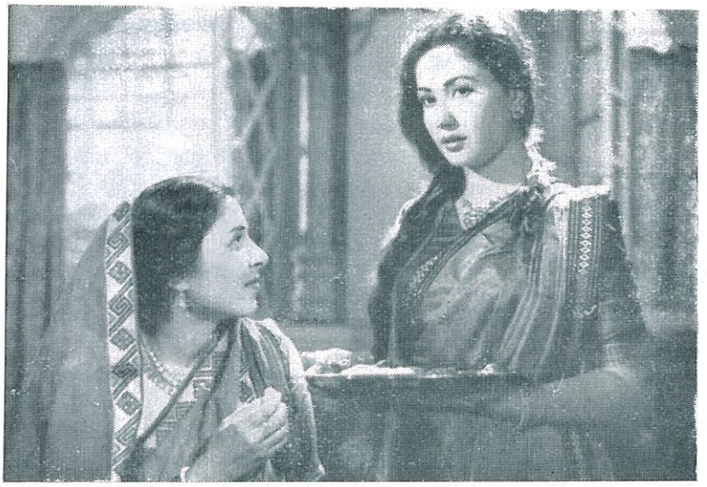
The story has Cornel Wilde, a bank robber, being wounded while robbing a bank, and then rushing to seek shelter in the forlorn mountain home of Jean Wallace, accompanied by his henchman Steven Hill and Hill's shady and self-assured moll Lee Grant. Leading an unhappy life with her neurotic husband, Dan Duryea, and her 12-year-old son, David, Jean is the girl who once had illicit relations with married Wilde, and whom, when she bore him a son, Wilde had got married to his brother Duryea so that Duryea may assume parentage of the child. The arrival of Wilde and his partners in the house throws the family into more unhappiness with Duryea's hatred of Wilde particularly intensified by the memory of old sordid facts. But a fierce snowstorm prevents Wilde from leaving and Duryea, unable to stand the presence of Wilde in his house any longer, manages to sneak out of the place dodging Wilde, and rushes to town to get the police. Meanwhile, Wilde manages to win the admiration of the little David, who does not know that Wilde is his real father, and fearing Duryea's return with the police he persuades David to guide him and his accomplices across the snow-covered mountain to a place from where they can effect a safe escape. When Jean tries to stop him from endangering David's life thus, Wilde ties her up and departs with his cohorts and David. But thieves must fight each other and soon a quarrel between Hill and his cheap girl-friend results in Hill pushing Lee off a cliff to her death. His lust for money and desire to have all the loot to himself makes Hill decide to murder Wilde and David also. But as he pounces on Wilde to kill him, David intervenes and shoots Hill dead. But by now Dennis Weaver, one of Duryea's men, arrives on the scene in pursuit of Wilde having found Duryea dead in the snow and having set Jean free. Thinking that Wilde was trying to harm David, Weaver wounds Wilde mortally. Seeing his death near, Wilde lets David know the truth by telling him that he was his real father and warns the boy against following the life of a criminal like him.

Final Verdict: This tale of murder, robbery, violence and illicit love constitutes a disgusting piece of entertainment, and since it tries to glorify a conscious criminal it becomes more dangerous and richly deserves to be banned.

THE SPOILERS (Universal-International)

CAST: Anne Baxter, Jeff Chandler, Rory Calhoun

Savage, screaming violence, many times more furious and sustained than seen in most Hollywood pictures, is dished out in this old gold-rush tale which has been filmed by Hollywood many times before.. Set in Alaska during the gold-rush days, the tale depicts human greed, lust and treachery and deals with



They always make Achala Sachdev a mother to keep Communism unpopular. She plays Meena Kumari's mother in "Amar Bani", produced by Sirkar Productions.

crooked judges, criminal officials, money-mad prospectors, violent miners, and other sordid men and scheming women—all involved in a variety of shady and violent episodes motivated by their lust for gold. It is an unpleasant picture and the marathon free fight between two characters which is staged towards the end of the picture is a sickening and nerve-racking affair because of its savage fury, brutality and bloodiness and makes the picture a completely unpalatable entertainment. Pictures like this one are nothing but stinking celluloid pamphlets preaching and popularising the cult of violence and no people in the world can be expected to remain unaffected by them for long. America is already too tragically affected by such pictures and so will be India if our people are too often exposed to them. It is the duty of the Censors to protect our people from such dangerous pictures and we do hope they will place an unhesitating ban on this picture.

Rory Calhoun, the new gold commisioner in Alaska, assures the anxious prospectors, who are startled by a wave of cases of people illegally taking possession of others' mine claims, that everything will be settled fairly when Carl Benton Reid, a judge, arrives. Reid arrives soon and aboard the same ship come Barbara Britton, Reid's niece, and Jeff Chandler and John McIntire, the joint owners of one of the richest local mines. Anne Baxter, the owner of a local saloon, goes to receive Chandler at the dock but becomes furious to see him paying more attention to Barbara. Chandler, however, soon turns his attention to business and is worried to find Reid making a dubious decision in a case concerning Chandler's mine. According to Reid's ruling, a group of selected marshals are authorized to remove gold from the mine. Smelling a rat somewhere, Chandler decides to defy the judge's orders, and remove his mine-ownership documents from the local bank. To help in dynamiting the safe, Anne assigns Ray Dalton, her aide, but Dalton quietly being in love with Anne himself gives the information of the scheme to Calhoun. And to remove Chandler from his way, he murders a deputy marshal and frames Chandler. Chandler is arrested but with Anne's help he manages to escape. By now it being revealed that Calhoun, Reid and Barbara are all in a crooked conspiracy, Chandler rushes for a showdown with Calhoun at the mine where he stages a furious gun battle with Calhoun's men. Afterwards Calhoun and Chandler are left to settle it out between themselves and the marathon free fight they engage in, becomes a flaming chapter of fury, violence and brutality which comes to an end only when Calhoun has been beaten enough to look like a hunk of raw meat.

Final Verdict: This picture of greed, treachery and brutal fights constitutes blatant propagation of the cult of violence and on no grounds deserves to be shown in Mahatma Gandhi's India. The Censors must ban this picture straightaway.

INSIDE DETROIT (Columbia)

CAST: Dennis O'Keefe, Pat O'Brien, Margaret Field

The racketeers of Hollywood weave another dirty and disgusting yarn of racketeering round a workers' union. Since that stinking picture "On The Waterfront", the idea of showing trade union officials in America as gangsters and criminals seems to have caught the fancy of Hollywood producers. Ever on the alert for pouncing upon any subject which can be used for making a crime picture, these Hollywood criminals are now busy producing new crime pictures with trade unionists as gangsters for a change. "Inside Detroit" is a stinking crime picture containing such a theme and overcrowded with gangsters, criminals and racketeers. To add to the picture's sordidness, there is a good dose of immorality provided by a distasteful episode in which a racketeer's mistress decides to catch his son too in her toils and succeeds for a good while. This is a revoltingly sordid picture and must be banned by the Censors.

The story revolves round Dennis O'Keefe, the president of an auto workers' union, and Pat O'Brien, the previous president now turned a racketeer who has already spent five years in jail and who is determined to regain control of the union. Things begin violently when a bomb explodes in the auto workers' union hall killing many people including O'Keefe's brother, and O'Keefe feels no doubt that the man responsible for the explosion is O'Brien. O'Keefe says so openly. Margaret Field, O'Brien's daughter, becomes indignant at the accusation for she feels that O'Keefe was behind sending her father to jail and was again trying to frame him, while Mark Damon, her younger brother, makes an unsuccessful attempt to shoot O'Keefe. O'Keefe now decides to reveal O'Brien in his true colours before Damon, and drags Damon to a party where O'Brien entertains his criminal henchmen. The sight shocks Damon but as he leaves the place in anger, Tina Carver, O'Brien's mistress, goes out after him. O'Brien was unwilling to divorce his wife for Tina's sake and Tina now decides to avenge herself by making Damon a victim of her wicked charms. And soon Damon is not only in love with Tina but also unwittingly participating in one of O'Brien's rackets due to Tina's manoeuvres. Meanwhile, O'Brien lets loose a wave of crime and intimidation with a view to gaining control of the union. With the evidence of O'Brien's shady, crooked and brutal activities, O'Keefe now confronts Margaret and shocked with the realization of her father's true character and the discovery that her brother is in love with her father's mistress, the girl ends up in a car crash receiving serious injuries. This has a sobering effect on Damon who goes to O'Keefe with the information of Tina's criminal rackets. In the end, O'Keefe forces Tina to get O'Brien into making incriminating statements which finally expose him as the man responsible for the bomb explosion.

Final Verdict: This sordid tale of racketeering and gangsterism is a stinkingly anti-social piece of entertainment and deserves to be banned without the slightest hesitation.

TOP GUN (United Artists)

CAST: Sterling Hayden, William Bishop, Karen Booth

This picture is one long disgusting sight of gun-play with gunmen and outlaws riding and killing all over the screen, guns blaring all the time, and various characters being reduced to corpses throughout the picture. Its purpose, as such, is blatant glorification of violence — a purpose which is anti-social and repugnant to Indian life, thought and culture. This is the

(Continued on page 40)

RANJANA SHUKLA—

This new starlet has been attracting considerable attention recently, particularly of independent producers. She has a face for the screen and does well in vampish roles. She has a nice role to play in "Orhni", a social story directed by Kiran Kumar for Fairdeal Films.

GEMINI STUDIOS (Madras)

Producer-director S. S. Vasan's "Insaniyat" is gaining more popularity with every passing week all over the country. Starring Dilip Kumar, Dev Anand, Bina Rai, Vijaylaxmi, Jayant, Agha, Kumar, Jairaj and Shobhana Samarth, the picture is a handsome piece of popular entertainment produced on a lavish, spectacular scale. Zippy, the Hollywood chimpanzee, is an important member of the cast and he provides more entertainment than probably anything else in the picture. Meanwhile, Producer Vasan is planning the production of a lavish Technicolor film to be made in Cinemascope with Stereophonic sound. The picture will be in Hindi and Tamil, and may have an English version too. Gemini's next, however, is a black and white film in Hindi and Tamil. It will be based on a story of rural India and will portray the spirit of humanity.

THE SCREENS (Bombay)

"Jayshri", starring Nimmi, Pradeep Kumar, Lalita Pawar, Jayant, Jeewan, Radhakishen, Roopmala and others, is making fast progress under the supervision of Seth Tarachand Barjatya. Based on a successful Tamil film, the picture has screenplay by Pt. Mukhram Sharma, music by Chitragupta, lyrics by G. S. Nepali, and choreography by Gopi Krishna. Balchander Shukla and Harsookh Bhatt direct the film and feel confident of turning out an entertainer that will achieve thumping success at the box-office.

DESH CHITRA (Bombay)

Author-producer Dewan Sharar has selected cameraman M. N. Malhotra, an experienced hand at colour photography, for cranking the camera in "Nirvana" which is to be shot in Ansco colour. The picture is laid in the Buddhist period and tells the exciting, colourful story of Vasavadatta, the celebrated courtesan. Vyjayantimala plays Vasavadatta, while Abhi Bhattacharya plays Upagupta, the Buddhist monk. Others in the cast include David, Karan Dewan, Gope, Roopmala, Naina, Jairaj and Venus Bannerjee. The direction is assigned to Jaigopal and Producer Dewan Sharar has plans to finish the picture at a fast pace.

MEHBOOB PRODUCTIONS (Bombay)

Producer-director Mehboob recently went to a village near Baroda along with his crew and turned the camera on a huge outdoor set to capture the colour, bustle and excitement of a village fair, for his forthcoming picture "Mother India". A good bit of excellent footage was canned and the picture reached nearer its end. This ambitious production of Mehboob is being shot in Gevacolor and stars Nargis, Raj Kumar, Sabu, Sajjad and Jillobai. Music-director Naushad has composed some hauntingly melodious tunes for the picture. Producer Mehboob is making "Mother India" at a steady pace and he is sure to reap thundering success when the picture is finally released.

BIMAL ROY PRODUCTIONS (Bombay)

Producer-director Bimal Roy's eagerly awaited "Devdas" was released in Calcutta on 12th January to highly appreciative crowds. A second attempt in Hindi at bringing to the screen Sarat Chandra's classic tragedy, the picture stars Dilip Kumar as Devdas, Suchitra Sen as Parvati, Vyjayantimala as Chandramukhi, and Motilal as Chuni Lal. Others in the cast include Nazir Husain, Baby Naaz and Johnny Walker. A lilting musical score is provided by S. D. Burman. The picture is scheduled for an early release in Bombay.

MARS & MOVIES (Bombay)

Producer-director Amiya Chakrabarty's "Seema" has become a box-office hit in Bombay as well as at other stations, and the fact is noteworthy because "Seema" is a picture which deserves success. Absorbingly told, the tale combines a purposeful theme with entertainment. Nutan in the leading female role gives a marvellous performance while Balraj Sahni opposite her provides an able support. Others in the cast are newcomer Shubha Khote, Sunder, Pratima Devi, Shivraj and Parveen Paul. Shankar and Jaikishen provide the music and a couple of songs have already become popular with the public.

Anxious not only to hear the good news but also to see him. Here is Jabeen with the curious engagement look waiting to meet him in "New Delhi", a social entertainer. Jabeen, however, could afford to look a little more intelligent—that is, of course, if she can.

Producer Vasan Planning Technicolor Film—"Jayshri" Fast Nearing Completion—Colourful Village Fair Scene Added To Mehboob's "Mother India"—Dewan Sharar Goes Ahead With Plans For "Nirvana"—AVM Getting "Bhai Bhai" Fast Ready For Release.

SHRI VISHWA BHARATI FILMS LTD. (Bombay)

Producer R. Chandra is happy with the steady progress of "Basant Bahar" under Raja Nawathe's direction. Intended to provide a grand feast of music, the picture tells the story of a South Indian singer played by Bharat Bhushan with talent and restraint. Others in the cast are Nimmi, Om Prakash, Chandrashekhar, Leela Chitnis, S. K. Prem, Kum Kum, etc. The music is composed by Shankar and Jaikishen and lyrics by Shailendra.

SADIQ PRODUCTIONS (Bombay)

A good deal of "Chhoo Mantar", a merry musical comedy, has been completed by Producer-director M. Sadiq. The picture stars Shyama, Karan Dewan, Om Prakash, Johnny Walker, Anita Guha, Sunder and Amar and contains some exceedingly pleasant tunes composed by Music-director O. P. Nayyar. Producer M. Sadiq is making sure that the picture will ooze pleasant music and popular entertainment and will be a box-office hit like his last "Musafir-Khana".

SHAH PICTURES (Bombay)

Producer Ramniklal N. Shah has got a pleasant and profitable mythological picture in "Indra Sabha" which is now awaiting release. The picture stars Chitra and Diljeet in the main roles while Hiralal, Al Nasir, Murad etc., constitute the supporting cast. Containing music by A. R. Khureishi, the picture is directed by Nanubhai Vakil. Meanwhile, Director Nanubhai Vakil is going ahead briskly with the shooting of "Anar Bala".

AVM PRODUCTIONS (Madras)

"Bhai Bhai", starring Nimmi,

If her face is looking a little old, remember she is our old favourite Suraiya. She will be once again seen in "Maalik", an adventure tale.

Kishore Kumar, Ashok Kumar, Nirupa Roy, David and Om Prakash, is now almost complete. The picture tells the tale of a simple and sensitive street dancer who with her love weans a young man away from a career of crime. Director M. V. Raman has filled the picture with plenty of forceful drama and plenty of effective entertainment. Meanwhile, Director Anant Thakur is busy completing "Chori Chori" at a fast pace. "Chori Chori" stars Raj Kapoor, Nargis, Bhagwan, Gope, Johnny Walker and Mukri, and contains some highly hilarious moments, many of them provided by Comedian Johnny Walker who plays a poet with eleven children.

FILM CLUB (Bombay)

The entire 16 mm distribution rights of the well-known full-length film "Mitrata-ki-Yatra" produced by the Films Division of the Government of India, covering the historic visit of Pandit Nehru to Russia and other European countries, have been acquired by Film Club, National House, Tulloch Road, Apollo Bunder, Bombay. The film is now available for commercial as well as private shows.

AMBITIOUS PICTURES (Bombay)

Producer-director Kidar Sharma is busy pouring colourful entertainment into "Rangeen Raten", an exciting love tale. The picture stars Shammi Kapoor and Mala Sinha in the leading roles, and is making fast progress under the artistic guidance of Kidar Sharma.

ALL INDIA PICTURES (Bombay)

Producer P. N. Arora's "Ekadashi" has become a popular mythological at the local Central cinema. Directed by Dada Gunjal, the picture stars Mala Sinha, Trilok Kapoor, Shammi, Gope, Jeevan, Rattan Kumar, etc. The music is composed by Avinash Vyas. With "Ekadashi" already on the screen, Producer Arora has now turned his full attention to "Anjaan" which he intends to complete, as usual, in the minimum of time. "Anjaan" stars Vyjayantimala, Pradeep Kumar, Johnny Walker, etc., and is reported to be shaping up into a fine entertainer.

RAGHUVIR CHITRA NIKETAN (Bombay)

Producer-director C. Raghuvir has completed "Hari Har Bhakti" and the picture is now ready for release. Starring Asha Mathur, Trilok Kapoor, Shahu Modak, Durga Khote, Ullhas etc., the picture carries a tuneful musical score by K. Dutta as well as a great appeal for all who love mythological tales.

PREM PICTURES (Bombay)

Producer-director K. B. Lall's "Zindagi Ke Mele" is complete and scheduled for an early release in Bombay. The picture stars Chitra, Chandrashekhar, Jagirdar, Lalita Pawar, K. N. Singh, Yakub etc. Chitragupta is in charge of music while Cameraman Minoo Billimoria is responsible for photography. "Zindagi Ke Mele" has been carefully designed as an effective entertainer by Producer K. B. Lall and reports promise the picture to be a box-office hit.

RAMESH FILM DISTRIBUTORS (Bombay)

This firm is looking forward to reaping big profits from its current line-up of three promising pictures. The pictures are "Pocket Maar", starring Geeta Bali, Dev Anand, Nadira, Gope etc. M. Sadiq's "Chhoo Mantar", and "Mohar" whose direction and musical direction are respectively assigned to P. Jairaj and Madan Mohan.

VAKIL PRODUCTIONS & DESAI PRODUCTIONS (Bombay)

With "Hatimtai Ki Beti" already released, Producer-director Nanubhai Vakil is now concentrating on "Lale-Yaman" which stars Chitra, Mahipal and Diljeet in the leading roles. Meanwhile, "Bansari Bala" is being planned under the banner of Desai Productions.

ROOPNAGAR LTD. (Bombay)

"Fifty-Fifty", starring Nalini Jaywant, M. Rajan, David, Manmohan Krishna, Sunder, Gope, Om Prakash, etc., is ready for release in Bombay through Messrs. Meera Films. The picture contains music by Madan Mohan and lyrics by Rajendra Krishan, while the direction is by Producer Roshanlal Malhotra himself who feels he has got a fine entertainer in "Fifty-Fifty".

SAIGAL PRODUCTIONS (Bombay)

Director Ramesh Saigal could not complete "26th January" in time to be able to release it on the Republic Day, and now the picture is expected to be released in March. Starring Nalini Jaywant, Ajit and Johnny Walker in the main roles. "26th January" is a spectacular fantasy with a stirring theme. Rajendra Krishan writes popular lyrics while C. Ramchandra provides a pleasant musical score. After "26th January" Ramesh Saigal proposes to get busy with "Ghazal" which is to star Nimmi in the leading role.

FAVOURITE FILMS (Bombay)

Director S. M. Yusuf has completed a good deal of "Maalik" at the Rangmahal Studios. The picture stars Suraiya, Talat Mahmood, Jeevan, Mukri etc., and has music by Ghulam Mohamed. With good music and two popular crooners in its cast, the picture ought to prove a popular fare with the picturegoers.

K. AMARNATH PRODUCTIONS (Bombay)

Producer-director K. Amarnath is making elaborate plans for the production of his next ambitious picture, "Naya Andaz". The picture will star Vyjayantimala, Kishore Kumar, Gope, Pran and Johnny Walker, while O. P. Nayyar will provide the music.

ASHOK KUMAR PRODUCTIONS LTD. (Bombay)

"Ragini", starring Ashok Kumar, Bharat Bhushan, Jabeen, Nazir Hussein and Achala Sachdev, is making satisfactory progress under Director Rakhan at the Jupiter Studios. Music director Roshan provides some melodious tunes and film prophets predict "Ragini" to emerge as a fine piece of entertainment.

DOSSI FILMS LTD. (Bombay)

"Taj", directed by Nandlal Jaswantlal and starring Vyjayantimala, Pradeep Kumar, Bipin Gupta, Jeevan, Roopmala, etc., is now ready for release. With photography by Fali Mistry, music by Hemant Kumar, lyrics by Rajendra Krishan, and with the luck of Director Nandlal, who has scored stupendous success in the past with pictures like "Anarkali" and "Nagin", "Taj" has every likelihood of proving a money-spinning entertainer at the box-office.

DE LUX FILMS (Bombay)

Director Mohan Segal has launched his maiden production and the picture is called "New Delhi". In the cast are Vyjayantimala, Kishore, Radhakishen, Nazir Hussein, Mirza Musharraf, etc. The story is by Inder Raj Anand, lyrics by Shailendra and Hasrat, music by Shankar and Jaikishen, and photography by K. H. Kapadia. Starting with a burst of zeal, Producer-director Mohan Segal has already shot and canned a good bit of footage.

EAGLE FILMS (Bombay)

Producer F. C. Mehra's "Sipah Salar", a sort of cowboy yarn, is now almost ready. The picture stars Shammi Kapoor, Nadira, Helen, Kumkum, Cuckoo, S. Nazir, etc. Mohd. Hussain directs the picture and promises plenty of adventure and entertainment.

Not surprised but a bit defiant, Anita Guha wants to know what role she plays in "Chhoo Mantar", in spite of Om Prakash. And Producer Sadiq cannot answer that question.

SHYAMA—

The nose ring makes many old stagers look young and attractive because a nose ring has been a symbol of a maidenhood of dreams. Shyama plays another tantalizing role in "Chhoo Mantar", a rollicking screen comedy produced and directed by M. Sadiq for Sadiq Productions Ltd.

CHOLIS THAT ATTRACT—

Cholis with the requisite touch of embroidery go well with plain white saris or with pastel shades. The embroidery must necessarily be in some bright colours. Red and black, mustard and green, orange and black are some of the pleasing combinations. Those fond of jari work can substitute the embroidery with jari.

The motif shown in the centre in detail can be used in different ways —as a quarter, half or full design— according to your taste. For displaying a fair neck, top left is suitable. For a well-developed bust, top right would do the trick. If you have shapely arms, then embroidery on the sleeves is just right.

(*Continued from page* 34)

kind of entertainment which must be prevented from being given to Indian children and youth. And India's adults are not moronic to need such a picture for their entertainment. Censors, therefore, will be doing a good turn to their countrymen by banning this violent, anti-social picture outright.

The story deals with Sterling Hayden, a gunfighter, whose mother is quietly murdered and buried. Hayden returns to his home-town to visit his mother's grave and to attend to some other matters. But on his arrival Hayden is told by James Millican, the town's Marshal, that the town did not want a notorious killer like him, even though his killings might have been done in self-defence. Hayden, however, decides to disregard Millican's advice to leave the town and tells Millican to be prepared to face a raid by John Dehner and his gang of outlaws. Soon afterwards, with the help of his old friend Regis Toomey, Hayden finds reason to believe that the man responsible for his mother's murder is William Bishop, chairman of the town council, who has fraudulently taken over his mother's ranch. As if that was not sufficient to incense Hayden against Bishop, he also learns that Bishop was about to bag Karen Booth, Hayden's erstwhile beloved, in marriage. Hayden thereupon loses no time in calling Bishop on his face what he thought of him and in throwing a challenge to him for a duel out of town. But being more a scheming crook than a trigger-happy thug, Bishop sends a hired gunman to Hayden to provoke him into using his gun. Hayden kills the hired gunman and Bishop, convincing the townspeople that Hayden had done the killing without provocation, gets him locked up. But by now, as warned by Hayden, Dehner and his outlaws raid the town, kill the Marshal and seize the town. The emergency prompts the terrorized councilmen to release Hayden and to ask him to come to the town's aid by becoming the Marshal. Hayden accepts the offer and soon kills the outlaws one by one till only their leader Dehner is left alive. As Hayden and Dehner prepare for a bloody duel, Bishop tries to shoot Hayden from behind. But Karen shoots dead Bishop before he can harm Hayden, while Hayden finishes off Dehner. In the end, Hayden, though asked by the townspeople to stay there, leaves the town accompanied by Karen, remembering that they had been unfair to him.

Final Verdict: This picture is Hollywood's usual essay on sheer violence and deserves to be banned as an anti-social picture.

AT GUNPOINT (Allied Artists)
Cast: Fred MacMurray, Dorothy Malone, Walter Brennan

The hero of this violent Western begins as a peaceful man who had never handled a gun in his life. But soon robbers disturb the man's peace and then he is not only handling a gun but handling it well, because Hollywood can have little use for a hero in a Western who does not use a gun and provide some violence in the picture. "At Gunpoint" is a bloody, violent Western filled with the usual gunfights and serving to be the usual package of violence which Hollywood must turn out in huge numbers every year in order to entertain Americans by appealing to their baser instincts. This vehicle of violence holds no appeal for peaceful Indians and can only harm them by preaching violence. The Censors must ban this picture outright.

Fred MacMurray is the peaceful owner of a general store in a small town. He has never in his life fired a gun nor is he eager to do so being content with a peaceful life with his wife, Dorothy Malone, and his young son. Hollywood, however, decides to make his life violent by sending a band of bank robbers to invade the town. The robbers attack and kill the sheriff and provoke MacMurray to take a gun in his hand. Seizing the murdered sheriff's gun, MacMurray fires it and through luck manages to kill the leader of the bank robbers. The robbers retreat but the dead leader's brother, Skip Homeier, vows to avenge his brother's death by killing MacMurray. This makes the townspeople pause in their praise of MacMurray as a hero and instead consider him as a provocation for further trouble with the outlaws. Afraid that his presence in the town would bring the robbers back on a vengeance mission, the townspeople ask MacMurray to go away from the town along with his wife and son, and collecting enough money they offer to compensate him for his financial loss. But MacMurray declines the offer, refuses to leave the town and scolds the people for their cowardice. Then with Walter Brennan, his old friend, as his only supporter, MacMurray awaits the showdown with the outlaws. The outlaws raid again with MacMurray ready to meet them alone, but by now the townspeople feel ashamed of their cowardice and decide to help MacMurray. In the end, the outlaws are wiped out in a furious battle with MacMurray and the townspeople.

Final Verdict: This is an unnecessary and unpleasant essay on violence and deserves to be banned in our peaceful country.

THE MAN WITH THE GOLDEN ARM (United Artists)
CAST: Frank Sinatra, Eleanor Parker, Kim Novak

While seeing "The Man With The Golden Arm", the Censors must remember that it is a picture that has been refused a seal of approval by the American Production Code authorities—the self-censors of Hollywood. The picture deals with illicit drug traffic and drug addiction — subjects expressly forbidden by the Code to be touched on the screen. Illicit drug traffic is a most grave menace which many countries are trying hard to fight. And there cannot be perhaps a more miserable man than the one who becomes addicted to drugs and finds it agonisingly hard to live without them and harder still to die peacefully without them. This drug menace is a subject for doctors and governments and it is better that most people are unacquainted with drugs and remain blissfully so. Drug addiction and illicit drug traffic are said to be quite widely prevalent in America and we do not know if the production of this picture, which depicts the harrowing experiences of a drug addict, is justified or not. But in India this picture must be safely and advantageously banned.

For, it is an extremely unpleasant entertainment and besides the hero is not only a hopeless and miserable addict of heroin, but also a professional card dealer leading a sordid, sombre life. His wife is a selfish and unpleasant woman who ends by becoming a murderess. This tale of murder, dope, gambling and criminals, therefore, becomes a sordid piece of entertainment which is capable of doing more harm than good in India.

The story has Frank Sinatra, a drug addict and a card dealer, returning to his nagging wife, Eleanor Parker, in his shabby apartment in a slum district of Chicago, after having been under treatment in a narcotics hospital and apparently cured of his addiction. But the unpleasant Eleanor, who leads him to believe that she is an invalid merely to keep him near her, soon makes him feel miserable again and he agrees to take a free dose of drug from Darren McGavin, a contemptible character engaged in illicit drug traffic. That one dose brings back Sinatra's addiction to drugs and in order to raise money for more doses, he again embarks on his old career of a professional card dealer for McGavin and Robert Strauss. In the end, Eleanor meets her death by falling from a fire escape while Sinatra looks forward to better days with Kim.

Final Verdict: This tale of drug addiction and illicit drug traffic is an extremely unpleasant piece of entertainment besides being a dangerous picture to show in India. The Censors can ban it with advantage.

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OUR REVIEW

"Bandish", An Enjoyable Comedy

Little Disey Irani Steals The Show

Basu Chitra Mandir's "Bandish" is a comedy in which a tiny tot turns the lives of a bachelor and a maiden into an amusing series of complications by calling one "Papa" and the other "Mummy" and then helps to bring them together in marriage with himself as their readymade son.

Without being loud, noisy, farcical or slapstick, "Bandish" is a pleasant comedy fairly well-written, competently enacted and delightfully told. Combining a brisk pace with an amusing narrative, the picture hands out numerous laughs and chuckles and keeps the spectator's attention almost throughout on the screen. Besides, the tale carries warm human appeal and becomes an enjoyable experience.

And "Bandish" establishes Satyen Bose as a director who knows his job and takes pains to do it well. Satyen proved himself an able director in "Parichay" and "Jagriti" and now "Bandish" indicates that he is consistent in the quality of his work. Let us hope the man doesn't let us down in future as so many others did in the past.

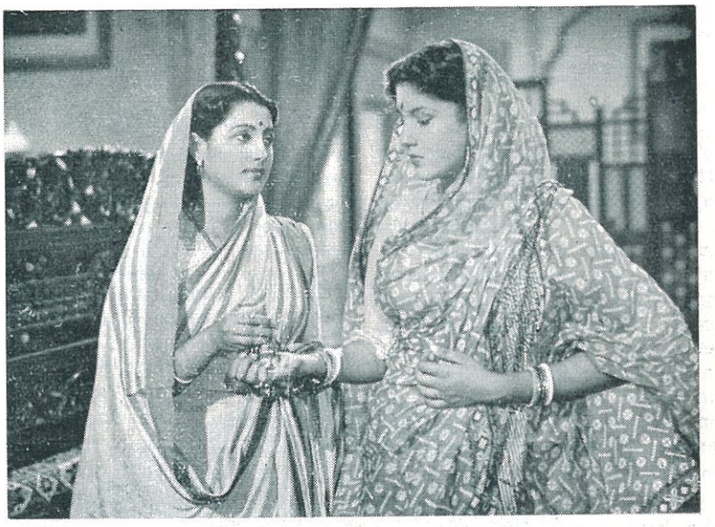
PAPA-MAMA TALE

The story has Mahendra, a kind, old and poor man, suddenly discovering that he has contracted tuberculosis and beginning to worry about Tomato, the 4-year-old orphan boy whose willing and loving guardian he had become since the child's parents died in an epidemic when it was only six-months-old. Before entering the hospital Mahendra decides to find another kind guardian for Tomato and goes to a park in search of one. Guided by visible signs of kindness he marks a worried-looking man in the park as a suitable guardian for Tomato and hammering it into the kid's head that the man was Tomato's long-lost father advises the kid to go and grab the man and stick to him for dear life.

Tomato, a smart and sweetly innocent kid, does as told and Kamal, the victim of this guardian-hunt, who begins by taking affectionate interest in Tomato is soon in a rueful mood as Tomato insists on calling him 'papa' and accompanying him wherever he goes and as people in the park scold him for trying to abandon his child. Kamal puts Tomato in his car and while driving aimlessly tries hard to persuade the moppet to leave him alone but Tomato proves indifferent to both his coaxings and threats. All that he knows on earth and needs to know is that Kamal is his Papa and he is going to stick to him for ever.

And that leads to a whole lot of complications for Kamal and amusing moments for the audience. Even before Tomato adds to them Kamal has enough troubles on his hands. His father has disallowed him to marry Usha, the girl he loves, because she is a dance teacher. The old man has also tightened his purse-strings because, it seems, in spite of his steady interest in Usha, Kamal was not above some casual interest in other girls leading his father to believe him to be somewhat of a philanderer. Kamal is now eager to avoid these casual girls, while Usha is inclined to avoid him following his father's disapproval of her. Short on money and rather unfortunate in reputation Kamal does not know where to find a shelter for Tomato without the kid being taken as a product of his profligacy.

He tries to dump the kid in a restaurant but Tomato proves smarter than him. He then goes to a friend of his but the friend refuses to believe that the kid is not his. Deciding to take a chance with Usha he goes to her and with due suspicions she agrees to keep Tomato for the night. But by the morning Tomato is calling Usha "Mummy" and Usha is crying to get rid of the brat. Kamal tries even an orphanage and another attempt at tricky abandoning but Tomato, like a bad penny, keeps bouncing back to Kamal till finally he manages to land in Kamal's home and calls Kamal "Papa" right before his father. By the end, however, the sweet kid wins everybody's heart as well as Kamal's father's sanction for his marriage to Usha. Wouldn't it be a nice world to live in if all orphans—Tomatoes and Chillies—could get parents so easily?



In Hindu homes with two women, the keys of the kitchen decide the reign of the woman. Watch Suchitra Sen handing over charge to Kamal in "Devdas", a romantic sigh produced and directed by Bimal Roy.

GOOD DIRECTION

The tale is full of pathetically amusing situations and Director Satyen Bose's treatment is cleverly geared to exploiting humour without unnecessarily emphasizing the tragedy. His best efforts are seen in the handling of the child who gives a delightful performance without once betraying a false note. Satyen Bose, however, should cease using human fatness as a source of humour. "Bandish" has some farcical and slapstick moments but on the whole it emerges as a very pleasant and refined comedy.

The production values are rather unimpressive. Sets are tolerable but backdrops are ugly. Photography is fair and erratic by turns. Sound recording is not always clear. The dialogue is generally good. The music and lyrics, however, are nothing to write home about.

From the players, the most delightful performance comes from little Roop Kumar playing Tomato. And Roop Kumar, we learn, is no boy but actually a little girl called Disey Irani. Well, Disey deserves many pats for a splendidly natural performance. Ashok Kumar as Kamal is good and effective as usual, though he looks a rather old bachelor. Meena Kumari as Usha is adequate. Bipin Gupta as Kamal's father and Pratima Devi as his mother fill the bills. The rest don't matter.

In fine, "Bandish" is a very pleasant comedy containing a charming performance by a sweet kid. The picture can be greatly enjoyed by one and all.

BANDISH

Producers:	**Basu Chitra Mandir**
Language:	**Hindustani**
Story:	**Jyotirmoy Roy**
Screenplay:	**Satyen Bose**
Dialogue:	**Gobind Moonis**
Lyrics:	**Prem Dhawan, Raja Mehdi Ali Khan, etc.**
Music:	**Hemant Kumar**
Photography:	**Madan Sinha**
Sound:	**K. S. Rane**
Cast:	**Ashok Kumar, Meena Kumari, Roop Kumar, Bipin Gupta, Pratima Devi, etc.**
Released At:	**Lamington, Bombay**
Date of Release:	**16th December 1955**

Directed By:
SATYEN BOSE

OUR REVIEW

"Amar Saigal" A Clumsy Rehash

Picture Kills The Dead Completely

"Amar Saigal" is the first attempt on the Indian screen to pay a tribute to the memory of a member of the film industry. And the man to whom the tribute is paid deserves it even though he does not need a biographical motion picture to perpetuate his memory. For, K. L. Saigal will continue to be remembered by the people as long as human voice can be preserved on wax and as long as Indians remain lovers of music.

Saigal was a glorious singer who kept a whole nation enchanted with his soul-stirring songs for over two decades. There was magic in his throat and his voice sounded a divinely pleasant blend of melody and pathos. The public knew him only as a golden-voiced singer though rumours, which were true, described him as an intemperate person. Saigal thus can be summed up as a man who sang divinely and drank indiscreetly.

Besides these two things, there seems to be little else of dramatic interest in Saigal's life and this picture, which understandably avoids the late singer's love of the bottle beyond making a slight reference and obviously tries to follow a course which will least embarrass any of the living members of the Saigal family, becomes a biographical portrait greatly lacking in dramatic interest. And though the picture has the appearance of being a sincere and sentimental tribute, it is a very mediocre affair as a motion picture. It is dramatically insipid, directorially crude and literarily unimaginative.

OLD FOOTAGE

A considerable length of the picture is provided by clippings from Saigal's numerous old pictures including "Chandidas", "Devdas", "President", "Dushman", "Dharti Mata", "Meri Bahen", "Shah Jehan" etc., while the rest of the picture depicts his life in a mild and undramatic fashion. And as shown in the picture Saigal's life emerges as fairly uneventful. And whatever life is shown fails to tell much about the subject beyond that he loved music even as a child, won praise for his singing at a conference at Jullundur, came to Calcutta looking for a modest job and then met I. A. Hafisjee of New Theatres who landed him a role in films. He won nation-wide acclaim for his singing in "Devdas" and from then on sang one hit song after another. Later, it is suggested that a doctor told Saigal that he was suffering from an incurable disease and hadn't very long to live. Upon which Saigal becomes gloomy in life and tries to hasten his end by taking to drink.

POOR ALL ROUND

The picture is not only weak in dramatic value but is desperately so in emotional values too. Technically and artistically, the picture is poor. Though Saigal's old songs are pleasing as ever, their reproduction is very bad even though one couldn't expect much from old sound tracks. Photography is erratic and the dialogue is unimpressive. And the script is quite clumsy.

G. Mugheri, who plays Saigal, does bear some resemblance to the late singer, but he has an ugly face and an awkward personality which Saigal did not have. In spite of his frail figure, Saigal had poise and confidence and radiated charm and amiability on his face. For those who have known Saigal closely, it is very difficult to accept this awkward man in the role of Saigal. I. A. Hafisjee plays himself and looks always natural and at home. Pahari Sanyal appearing briefly as himself, is quite himself. Padma Devi also does her bit pretty well..

In short, "Amar Saigal" is generally a crude rehash of scenes from Saigal's old pictures. As a biography it is uninterestingly presented, as a motion picture it is clumsy. If its purpose is to cash a dead man's name, it won't succeed. It is a picture that kills the dead completely.

AMAR SAIGAL
(The Immortal Singer)

Producers: **Sircar Productions**
Language: **Hindustani**
Script: **Benoy Chatterjee**
Dialogue: **Pandit Natwar**
Background music: **Aparesh Lahiri**
Photography: **Nirmal Dey**
Cast: **G. Mugheri, Tandon, I.A. Hafisjee, Pahari Sanyal, Padma Devi, etc.**
Released At: **Minerva, Bombay**
Date of Release: **12th January 1956**
Directed By: **NITIN BOSE**

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OUR REVIEW

"Sassi" A Crude, Disgusting Sight From Pakistan

Ugly, Rotten And Seventh Rate Picture

"Sassi" is the latest picture to come from Pakistan and if this picture is any proof of the local pudding Pakistan's film industry still seems to be at the stage where motion picture production mainly means somehow darkening a length of celluloid.

"Sassi" is an ugly, rotten, seventh rate picture which makes the spectator restless in his seat ten minutes after its start. There is not a trace of technical skill, art or imagination in the entire length of this darkened celluloid. Extremely poorly photographed, more poorly directed and containing silly performances, shoddy sets and dreadfully dull music, the picture is a rarely ugly and crude sight and makes one limp with sheer boredom by the time it traverses its tiresome course to reach its long-awaited end.

TIRESOME OLD TALE

The tale is the old, old one dealing with the two star-cross-

ed lovers of Sind—Sassi and Punnu. A daughter is born to the ruler of Bhambore—Adam Jam. But before the old ruler can be too happy about the event, he gathers from fortune-tellers and falling stars that the new-born child is going to prove ominous for him and bring upon him much misery. The already miserable-looking ruler being in no mood to welcome any bad days, puts the infant in a chest along with gems and jewels and throws the chest into the near-by river.

The river carries the chest to Atta, an old ugly dhobi, who takes the jewels and the infant to his home where his fat wife readily agrees to proclaim that the child was hers. Years roll away and the child grows into an attractive maiden called Sassi. With youth come romantic dreams to Sassi and a persistent visitor in her dreams is a young prince whom she considers to be ravishingly handsome and falls in love with him. Soon she learns that her dream lover actually exists on earth in the shape of Punnu, the prince of the neighbouring kingdom of Makran.

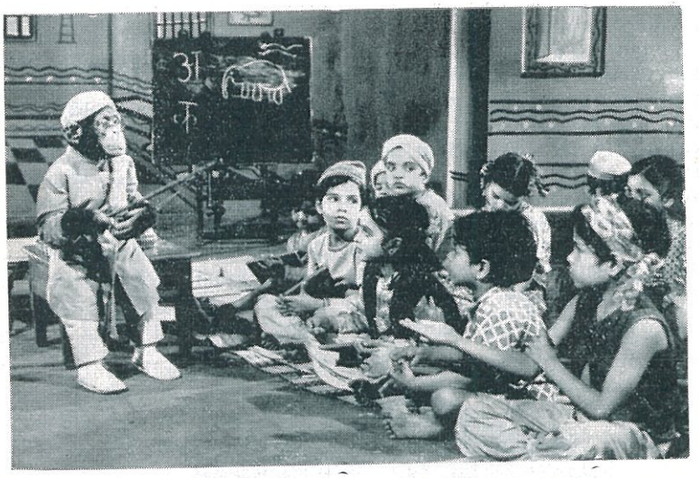
Dreams play the Cupid with Punnu too and he also falls in love with Sassi without ever having laid eyes on her. Punnu now rushes to Bhambore and the two lovers meet for the first time in an excited embrace. Now follow numerous and traditional obstacles in the path of the lovers, the chief one being ruler Adam Jam's ban on anyone in his state marrying someone from Makran. Finding the lovers defiant, Adam Jam orders Punnu to be killed and on the prompting of his chief minister decides to marry Sassi himself without knowing that she is his long-abandoned daughter. Fortunately he learns the truth in good time, while Punnu manages to escape the death penalty. But nobody can save star-crossed lovers and so on the eve of his marriage to Sassi, Punnu is kidnapped by his brothers with the object of being taken back to Makran. Sassi runs after him and in the end both the wailing lovers meet the legendary death in desert together.

STUPID DIRECTION

The old tale is presented in a primitive manner and nowhere the director has done anything which may prove him guilty of some intelligence or imagination. The picture thus achieves a purely stupid look and manages to completely murder the emotionalism of the old love story.

The production values are miserably poor. Sets are drab and unconvincing. Photography is distinctly ugly. Sound recording is a jarring job. The dialogue is dull and the lyrics are trite. The music is just a method of creating noise, except one tune which is a carbon copy of a popular Indian song from a recent Filmistan picture. And the idea of Pakistanis trying to sell us our own popular songs is the limit of brazenness. The direction is consistently clumsy and stupid.

From the players, Sabiha as Sassi has ordinary looks and acts poorly. Sudhir as Punnu looks ugly and wooden. Almost throughout he carries vacant eyes and a blank face and whenever his face does relent to accommodate an expression, the expression defies identification. Shah Nawaz as the ruler Adam Jam looks like an old, haggard stable hand badly needing retirement. Ghulam Mohammed plays Atta and looks a dhobi



Zippy, Hollywood's most intelligent artiste, plays the school teacher and conducts a class of badly behaved human children in "Insaniyat", the thundering box-office hit of Gemini studios produced and directed by S. S. Vasan.

all right but still speaks an atrocious Punjabi-accented Urdu and tortures the ears besides reviving the sad memories of his heydays of hamming in India. From the rest, Bibbo as Atta's wife merely serves to indicate that there is enough food in Pakistan, at least for her.

In short, "Sassi" is a trashy import from Pakistan and an ugly rotten affair as a motion picture. This length of darkened celluloid is not worth seeing free of charge by picturegoers and not worth booking free by exhibitors. The picture constitutes a damnable risk to any conscientious exhibitor.

SASSI

Producers:	Eveready Productions
Language:	Urdu
Story:	F. D. Sharaf
Dialogue:	Shahir Ghaznavi
Lyrics:	Aziz Meeruti
Music::	G. A. Chishti
Photography:	Riaz
Sound:	B. Ali
Cast:	Sabiha, Sudhir, Asha Posley, Shah Nawaz, Ghulam Mohammed, Bibbo, etc.
Released At:	Minerva, Bombay
Date of Release:	23rd December 1955

Directed By:
DAWOOD CHAND

OUR REVIEW

"Albeli", An Insolent Copy Of "Fabulous Senorita"

A Disgrace To Producer Devendra Goel

Producer-director Devendra Goel, who is suspected to be an educated man with a University degree, resorts to a most brazen attempt at plagiarism in "Albeli" and presents a picture which is a shameful testimony of an appalling lack of ethical standards in its producer.

"Albeli" is an unacknowledged adaptation of Republic Pictures' "The Fabulous Senorita" and sticks as close to the original as any acknowledged adaptation could. Its story, situations, characters, dialogue and even the manner of presentation are all outright lifted from the Republic picture. It is obvious that during the production of "Albeli", its makers' intelligence and imagination, if they have any, must have taken a complete holiday because no intelligence or imagination is required in doing some duplication work. "Albeli" takes its life, blood and bones from "The Fabulous Senorita" and yet attempts to pass as original work with the producer making no mention of the original source and instead crediting it as "written by S. K. Prabhakar".

Plagiarism may be a popular hobby with Indian film producers because of the comparative impunity with which it can be practised, but it doesn't reflect favourably on the sense of decency and honesty of one resorting to it. That an educated producer like Devendra Goel should arrogate to himself the creative labour of others merely to earn a little profit is all the more disgraceful in a country where even politics has some moral standards. Therefore, though "Albeli" may bring some tolerable entertainment to picturegoers, to Devendra Goel it brings only disgrace.

EXPANDED VERSION

"The Fabulous Senorita", starring the popular Cuban actress Estelita, was just a fair comedy, often farcical and generally farfetched, which proved to be a dark horse in Bombay and ran for 12 long, surprising weeks at the local Excelsior. But being sufficiently short in length, it had a fairly fast tempo, so necessary for a comedy. Now "Albeli" is about twice the length of "The Fabulous Senorita" and doesn't contain half as much interest. And the theme being quite alien to Indian life, the picture is unconvincing from the beginning to the end.

Briefly, the story deals with a hotel proprietor's two young daughters—Gita and Rita. Rita is in love with a young, awkward boy but seeing that her father is prepared to get her married to Bahadur Singh, the perpetually sneezing son of a rich man who is negotiating a loan with her financially-worried father, she quietly stages a marriage with her lover and then aided and abetted by Gita makes an attempt at elopement with her secret husband. During that attempt Gita runs into Pradeep, a music teacher, who forms an unpleasant first impression of her because of a nasty trick she plays on him but who is later tricked by Gita into believing that the hotel proprietor's both daughters are identical-looking twins. Pradeep then addresses some pleasant words to Gita believing her to be the hotelier's other daughter Rita. And when Gita learns that Pradeep is her favourite singer, she decides to chase him to the end of the earth.

And with that decision she starts playing a series of tricks upon different people, tricking her father into permitting her to go to the town where Pradeep works as a music teacher, tricking the chief of Pradeep's institution into believing that she represents both the sisters, Gita and Rita, tricking other members of the institution and so on. Her tricks of course create a lot of complications and generate practically all the amusement in the picture. It all ends with her hoax being revealed and she being accepted by Pradeep as his bride.

NOT IMPRESSIVE

The production values are poor. Sets look crude and photography is erratic. Sound recording is not satisfactory. The music is mildly interesting and only in bits. The dialogue and the direction are not worth commenting upon because there is nothing creative or original about them.

From the players, Geeta Bali plays the naughty, hoax-perpetrating girl and though she is normally a big bundle of tricks, talent and liveliness sufficient to put to shame dozens of Estelitas, here the girl looks off colour and inhibited. She seems to have suffered due to the probable demand

Pining? No! Only planning! Even with tears in their eyes women don't stop designing. But Chitra has grown a fat face and her designs won't be very effective in "Zindagi-ke-Mele", produced and directed by K. B. Lall.

At ease, of course, but not off guard. Women, wherever they lie, are always on the alert and more so when they have something to lose. Vyjayantimala brings new life to the screen in "Taj", a tale of love.

of modelling her portrayal on the original one. Pradeep Kumar as the singer is tolerable. Johnny Walker as the sneezing idiot manages to amuse now and then. Om Prakash as the hotel proprietor is unconvincing. Randhir as a painter lover of Gita looks more silly than comical. The rest don't deserve any mention.

In short, "Albeli" is a silly and shameless adaptation of "The Fabulous Senorita". The picture does carry some entertainment for the picturegoers, but it carries more disgrace for the producer.

ALBELI

Producers:	Films And Television
Language:	Hindustani
Lyrics:	Ravi & Raja Mehdi Ali Khan
Music:	Ravi
Photography:	Ramchandra
Sound:	Kaka Modak, Raja Babu, H. Dev
Cast:	Geeta Bali, Pradeep Kumar, Johnny Walker, Om Prakash, Randhir, Rama Sharma, etc.
Released At:	Novelty, Bombay
Date of Release:	30th December 1955

Directed By:
DEVENDRA GOEL

OUR REVIEW

"Teen Bhai"—The Old, Old Trash

Dull, Stale, Unconvincing Tale

Nowhere in the world does such a ready market for really trashy stories exist as in Bombay's film industry. Any stupid tale which may not stand a chance of being sold anywhere else on the earth even by the weight of the paper it is written on, is always likely to find a customer among Bombay's film producers who, it seems, are convinced that it is a crime to select an intelligent story for the screen.

The story of D. P. Productions' "Teen Bhai" is one such trashy tale which we at least would not have utilized even for lighting a stove. There is nothing fresh or interesting about the story, nothing intelligent, nothing imaginative. It is dull, stale, highly unconvincing and too frequently silly. And it is because of this story that the picture fails to make any impression on the spectator even though the picture is otherwise fairly well produced, quite well directed and well photographed. "Teen Bhai", therefore, is another victim of a bad story and another picture to provide the old lesson, which we are sure most producers will never learn, that when producers spend lakhs of rupees besides a lot of time and labour in bringing a tale to the screen, they must be very careful about the quality of that tale.

AN UNCONVINCING TALE

"Teen Bhai" of course deals with three brothers, Mahesh, Suresh and Naresh. Mahesh, the eldest, is an old widower and a weary-looking court clerk. Naresh, the youngest, is a college student waiting for his M. A. results. Suresh, the middle one, is a stupid and puzzling brain child of the author and defies analysis. A messy mixture of vile villainy, rank stupidity and plain madness, Suresh is the man responsible for all the conflict in the picture and all the unwarranted excitement.

The picture opens with the three brothers sitting down for their meals together and Suresh soon makes it plain that he is an unnecessarily unpleasant and inexplicably stupid man who wants to fire the cook in the house for reasons of economy, buy a car for reasons of comfort and to insist on his bedridden and seriously ailing wife doing all the cooking and household work for reasons of affection for his wife. Being some sort of a businessman he seems to rule the house and the surprise is nobody questions his sanity and instead all bow before his mad decisions, albeit after creating some noisy grunts and whimpers for melodramatic reasons.

Now while the two mild brothers, Mahesh and Naresh, begin a quiet career in the kitchen to save Suresh's ailing wife any strain without revealing to Suresh that his orders were not being followed, Suresh reveals himself to be an extremely sordid character. It is revealed that the man is infatuated with a gold-digging strumpet and in order to raise money for bringing the dirty girl to his lusty bed, he is trying to kill his devoted wife by slow poisoning and to get Naresh married to the daughter of a rich man. From the former scheme he hopes to gain his wife's fat insurance money and from the latter a fat dowry.

The wife of course offers no resistance and daily imbibes little doses of poison thinking them to be medicine, but actually prepared by a quack in league with Suresh. Naresh, however, falls in love with Krishna, the daughter of a doctor next door, and when Suresh tries to cash the dowry in a hurry, Naresh is found

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Everything is cockeyed about this one, including the cap. Youth is spring and like spring it needs perhaps all these flowers of decoration. Let us see what Chitra is doing with all this jewellery in "Indra Sabha", a love tale from heaven.

unwilling to obey him. That leads to more noise, the departure of the two good brothers from the house, and anxiety in Suresh to finish the job of killing his wife as soon as possible. In the end, however, a man who looks to be the pimp of the strumpet spills Suresh's beans and Mahesh and Naresh rush to prevent their brother's wife, in the nick of time, from taking the final fatal dose of poison. Caught in his crime, Suresh immediately becomes repentant and, believe it or not, everything is forgiven and forgotten and it all ends with the three brothers affectionately huddling together in an atmosphere of smiles and sunshine as if nothing unpleasant had ever happened before in that house.

NOT MUCH TO SHOUT

Apart from its basic trashiness, the tale has too much of longwinded dialogue. And if all the irrelevant and unnecessary bits of dialogue were deleted, the picture could be shortened by about four reels and given a better tempo. That the tale would look still stupid is another matter. As it is now, the picture is not only stupid but dull and boring.

The production values are quite good. Sets serve the purpose. Photography is a good job. Sound is quite clearly recorded except some erratic bits in song recording. The dialogue is lethally longwinded and occasionally quite silly. The lyrics are some rarely stupid pieces of rhyming. The music by Arun Kumar, who died recently, is quite pleasant in places. Considering the story with which it is hugely handicapped the direction is quite good.

From the players, Nirupa Roy as the unfortunate wife manages to look sick all right. Bharat Bhooshan takes it quite easy as Naresh, while Shyama as his beloved Krishna looks ugly and withered. Nazir Hussein as Mahesh gives a mannered performance. Pahari Sanyal, though normally a very good artiste, doesn't look at home as Krishna's father. From the rest Hiralal as Suresh plays an ugly role in an extremely crude and clumsy manner.

In short, "Teen Bhai" is a picture which fails to impress because it contains a story which should have been consigned to the wastepaper basket, instead of being brought on the screen.

TEEN BHAI

Producers:	D. P. Productions
Language:	Hindustani
Story:	Moni Burma
Screenplay:	Benoy Chatterji
Dialogue:	Mahendra Pran
Lyrics:	Bharat Vyas
Music:	Arun Kumar
Photography:	Dilip Gupta
Sound:	Issa M. Suratwala
Cast:	Nirupa Roy, Shyama, Bharat Bhooshan, Pahari Sanyal, Hiralal, Nazir Hussein, Gulab, Leela Misra, etc.
Released At:	Naaz, Bombay
Date of Release:	30th December 1955

Directed By:
HEM CHUNDER

OUR REVIEW

"Society", Exceptionally Boring And Stupid

A Dangerous Picture For Exhibitors

"Society" is a picture which can be recommended only to one contemplating penance and looking for some suitable suffering to subject himself to. It is a neat little torture which hurts enough without completely killing one.

Jointly devised by Authoress-producer Ismat Chugtai and Director Shahid Lateef the picture is torturous all round. It is torturous technically, torturous in contents and torturous in presentation. Starting with some thematic pretensions as a tale of an intrepid journalist fond of exposing social evils and exploding shoddy literary efforts, the picture develops into a piece of sheer inanity and ends as an ugly gangster melodrama. And the overall impression one gets of "Society" is that of a trashy crime film in which the theme of fearless journalism is mercilessly stifled under a massive show of crime and stupidity.

A CRIME STORY

The picture opens with Ratna, a young daughter of rich parents, being felicitated at a function for a novel she has written. It seems as if everyone had liked the novel till the man reading out the various laudatory press notices of the novel trips up and also blurts out the contents of a highly damnatory review. Ratna feels embarrassed and leaves the function. Also embarrassed is Ramesh, a rich racketeer interested in Ratna, who discovers that the paper containing the wicked review happens to be owned by him.

Smarting under the criticism Ratna goes to the paper's office to see the editor who introduces her to Ashit, the writer of the review. Ratna finds Ashit as unpleasant as his criticism while the audience finds him more a puny packet of insolence and impudence than a fiery journalist. After exchanging some unpleasant words with Ashit, Ratna goes away feeling offended. But actually she must have relished Ashit's overbearing attitude for soon we find her falling in love with this insolent creature even though he treats her like his backstairs girl.

But by the time Ratna finds herself in love with Ashit, he finds himself without a job, Ramesh having got him dismissed failing to buy his docility even with 25,000 rupees. Ramesh's one complaint against Ashit was that he was repeatedly calling "Public Help Society" a dishonest organisation in the paper, even though Ramesh himself had started the organisation with the quiet intention of swindling the public. That

Poverty has more pangs of hunger than riches, for one has to digest the food even before it is cooked or eaten. Here is veteran Lalita Pawar adding salt to her bread of poverty in "Maalik", a tale with a social theme.

Ramesh in spite of being the owner of the paper and the boss of an organized crime gang should have offered 25,000 rupees to Ashit to desist him from his apparently libellous writings, flouts commonsense.

Anyway, after his dismissal from the paper Ashit tries to get his crusading stuff against the dishonest Society published in other papers but does not succeed because it seems that every publisher in the town is mortally afraid of Ramesh's crime gang. The gangsters try to cow down Ashit too by making an attempt on his life but succeed only in bruising him in a dark alley. After the beating Ashit meets a kind stranger who allows him to use his printing press for carrying on his crusade. From here, the picture is mostly a silly portrait of gangsterism. It all ends with the gangsters being killed by a time-bomb with which they had planned to kill Ashit, and Ashit and Ratna uniting to plan a pleasant future together.

STUPID TRASH

The tale as told on the screen appears trashy and the picture becomes a painful mixture of exceptional boredom and stupidity. There is nothing impressive about its production values, either. Sets are poor. Photography is erratic and sound recording none-too-pleasant. The dialogue is generally stupid, while only the first song looks slightly worthy of lyric-writer Sahir Ludhianvi. Coming from S. D. Burman, the music is too dull. The direction is hideously inefficient.

From the players, Nimmi as Ratna fails to impress largely due to the stupidly written role and the unimaginative direction. Nasir as Ashit looks ugly and utterly unconvincing. Iftikhar as Ramesh looks a crook all right but not a business magnate. From the rest, Johnny Walker does some usual clowning chasing a bitch all the while believing that his girl-friend has been transformed into a canine shape by a magician.

In short, "Society" is an exceptionally boring and stupid picture which starts as a story of fearless journalism but ends as an ugly gangster tale. Seeing this picture is wasting time and money. A dangerous picture for exhibitors.

SOCIETY

Producers: **Film India Corporation**
Language: **Hindustani**
Story, Screenplay & Dialogue: **Ismat Chugtai**
Lyrics: **Sahir Ludhianvi**
Music: **S. D. Burman**
Photography: **Nariman Irani**
Sound: **Mukul Bose**
Cast: **Nimmi, Nasir, Johnny Walker, Iftikhar, Kum Kum, etc.**
Released At: **Super, Bombay**
Date of Release: **16th December 1955**
Directed By: **SHAHID LATEEF**

RECORDS TO BUY

"SEEMA"
(Music Director: Shankar & Jaikishen)

No. 51671 (Lata Mangeshkar)
"Suno chhotisi gudiya ki lambi kahani"
A plaintive melody in ever-popular Bhairavi, this one transports you from the world of reality to a world of pleasant dreams. A record worth buying.

No. 51673 (Lata Mangeshkar)
"Mana mohana bade jhoothe"
The classic-conscious record-buyer has something after his own heart in this song tuned in mixed strains of Jaijaiwanti. On the other side, Mohd. Rafi sings a familiar wail, "Kahan ja raha hai".

No. 51672 (Manna Dey and chorus)
"Too pyar ka sagar hai"
This chorus is nicely tuned and easy to hum. On the other side is, "Hamen bhi de do sahara", sung by Mohd. Rafi and chorus, carrying plenty of philosophical sentiment. The song is likely to be used soon by our singing street beggars.

"DEVDAS"
(Music Director: S. D. Burman)

No. 51706 (Lata Mangeshkar)
"O aanewale rook ja"
If you like a speedy rhythm, buy this one. The few touches of Hamir add to its beauty.

No. 51705 (Geeta Dutt & Manna Dey)
"Aan milo shyam sanware"
Patterned after the Bengali devotional bhajan, the song can be utilised for community singing. On the other side is a lively wedding duet sung by Geeta Dutt and Manna Dey, "Sajan ki ho gayi gori".

No. 51704 (Lata Mangeshkar)
"Aage teri marzi"
Here is a pleasant semi-classical gazal in notes of mixed Pahadi. On the other side is "Jise too qabool kar le" sung by Lata. The catchy Arabic rhythm is quite infectious.

"JAGADGURU SHANKARACHARYA"
(Music Director: Avinash Vyas)

No. 51535 (Geeta Dutt & chorus)
"Meri gagar men sagar"
Young girls may like this chorus because of its familiar ideas. On the other side is "Pehachan sake to pehachan" sung by Mohd. Rafi—a bhajan with occasional touches of Bhimpalas.

"EK HI RASTA"

No. 51650 (Lata Mangeshkar)
"Aakhir tere jahan ne"
This one caters to a sad mood and is meant particularly for those used to brooding and complaining.

"DASHERA"
(Music Director: N. Dutta)

No. 51642 (Shamshad Begum)
"O dilwalo mehfilwalo"
Shamshad's bright rendering makes this tune sound brighter.

No. 51643 (Pradeep)
"Doosron ka dukhra door karnewale"
The steady rhythm of this bhajan with a few touches of Pahadi is likely to appeal to the devotional-minded.

AT HOME & ABROAD

In motion pictures the costume makes them look like 'satis' and the role lends them virtue of the ancient times. This smart one is Sulochana, an attractive proposition from Poona, who attracts attention in "Sati Anusuya", a mythological tale.

UNITY AT LAST

Bombay, December 26.

One more hurdle was jumped over by Mr. S.S. Vasan, President, Film Federation of India, when he got the Film Producers' Guild of India to join the Federation. At the executive committee meeting of the Film Federation of India on December 21, at New Delhi, the Film Producers' Guild of India was formally admitted as a member of the Film Federation of India.

A supreme council with representatives from all the constituents directly connected with production will soon be formed. The decision of the supreme council will be binding on all producers and it will advise the Federation on affairs regarding production.

Only a few months ago, the Guild had held out obstinately against Mr. Vasan's efforts to forge unity. The shrewd South Indian film magnate then broke down a part of the opposition by getting himself admitted as a member of the Guild. Later by gentle persuasion and untiring perseverance he made the Guild see eye to eye on the benefits of the common front which they had to offer the Government to fight the battles of the industry. That did the trick and the Guild became a member of the Federation.

We congratulate Mr. Vasan on this clever move and hope that the film industry does benefit in getting some concessions from the Government.

SECOND IN SAME BED

Hollywood, December 20.

Charming actress Ann Blyth, 27, presented Hubby Dr. James McNulty, 37, with a bonny daughter in Los Angeles.

The child was christened Maureen Ann. This is their second child, the first one being a son. Ann's threat of rearing a big family is materialising systematically with an obstetrician in her bed.

JUNK FOR JUNKS

Paris, December 23.

An auction in aid of retired French actors was held by French film and stage stars in Paris.

Maurice Chevalier's straw hat fetched 100,000 francs. Some one gave another 100,000 francs for Charlie Chaplin's umbrella while a sex-conscious spectator bought a dress worn by Martine Carol, popular French actress, in a film, for 50,000 francs. But the biggest item that brought maximum money was the lovely guitar of famous singer Tina Rossi, 150,000 francs.

That's an idea our stars should try here to know exactly how popular they are.

OLD MAN ARDESHIR

Bombay, December 23.

At a reception held at the Vallabhbhai Patel Stadium to commemorate the silver jubilee of the Indian 'talkie', the Society of Cine and Audio Engineers presented a silver plaque to Khan Bahadur Ardeshir Irani, the producer of "Alam Ara", the first Indian 'talkie'.

Two others, Dadasaheb Torney, and Y.S. Kothare, the oldest recordist of Bombay, were given gold emblems of the Society for services rendered in sound recording.

The function was sprinkled with the usual speeches. Mr. B.D. Bharucha, president of CEAI, who presented the plaque and the medals, praised Ardeshir Irani and called him "a great pioneer whose career is of abiding interest to all those interested in the history of the cinema". In his reply, Ardeshir Irani thanked the organisers for having "remembered me and given this respect". Ardeshir Irani was made an honorary patron of the Society.

This is the first of the functions held to celebrate the Silver Jubilee of the Indian 'talkie'. Mr. Vasan has chalked out a colourful programme to celebrate the great event, of course with the help of our stars, directors, producers, etc.

BISHOPS PROVOKED

Washington, D.C.
December 26.

Catholic Bishops in the United States have announced plans for a new "crusade" against "objectionable films". A report on the record number of immoral films produced by U.S. in 1955 by the Most Rev. William Scully, Bishop of Albany and Chairman of the Bishop's Committee on motion pictures, seems to have roused the conscience of the Bishops.

They wanted the Legion of Decency — the Catholic organisation in New York which evaluates films from the moral angle — to be revitalised. According to the National Catholic Welfare Conference, "the crusade will reach into everyone of the Church's 131 archdioceses and dioceses to correct the apathy of many people and to arouse Catholics to vigorous protests over the increase in objectionable films."

It is time someone cleaned the contents of some of the crime-laden and sex-ridden motion pictures of U.S. Baburao Patel has been doing this good work for the last 20 years without being a bishop.

A CENTURY TOGETHER

Hollywood, December 19.

Lana Turner and hubby Lex

Wrestlers often use that catch to throw their opponents over their heads. Women use it in romance also to effect a throw. Chitra and Diljit—two amateurs at an old game—in "Indra Sabha", the love tale with many girls.

Barker celebrated their second wedding anniversary in a royal manner. Lex gave Lana a gold bracelet with twelve diamonds to match a similar one given last year while Lana's gift to Lex was a gold cigarette lighter with the inscription, "L plus L equals two hearts together equals us.".

Two years at a stretch is a long, long time for the volatile Lana to stay married. The occasion deserved celebration, if nothing else, for the diamond-set gold bracelet, which Lana received.

A RIPLEY YARN

Bombay, December 20.

The Government of Bombay has decided to establish a Department of Music, Dance and Drama in the Sir J. J. School of Art to promote practical training and research in these fine arts.

The total cost of the scheme is likely to be Rs. 1,04,000 out of which Rs. 13,050 will be non-recurring and Rs. 90,950 recurring. There will be 3-year courses in each of the branches with the trainees receiving diplomas at the end of the course. There will also be a 2-year post-Diploma course for research in Music and a 1-year course for research in Dance.

It is too early to say what will happen to this ambitious scheme. Like many other good and great intentions of the Government, this one might also turn out to be a bubble in the air. The headache, however, is finding the teachers.

GOT GOING

Hollywood, December 19.

With the success of "To Hell and Back" written by actor Audie Murphy, life has become more interesting to Audie. The picture brought him half a million dollars and now he wants to shift from his plain ranch home to a costlier one on a hill. He has also invested in a new firearms firm Guns, Inc. He wants to take a college course in literature.

Young Audie Murphy was one of the best decorated American heroes of World War II. He wrote his experiences in a novel called "To Hell And Back" which was made into a motion picture.

Audie's "hell' has nearly transformed itself into a "heaven" with money pouring in generously.

MORE WORK, MORE PAY

Madras, December 30.

The Labour Appellate Tribunal of India (Second Bench), Madras, dismissed the appeal by the Roxy and New Globe Theatres, Madras, regarding the over-time allowance to be given to workers.

The Tribunal held that cinema shows over and above 16 per week in Madras city should be considered as extra shows from October 1, 1953, and that workers should be paid seven-eighths of their daily basic wage as remuneration for each extra show. They further held that the computation of extra allowance should not be made according to hours of work under Section 14 of the Madras Shops and Establishments Act of 1947.

In dismissing the appeal, the Bench observed that there was convincing evidence for the contention of the workers that the normal number of shows per week in the cinemas in Madras city was 16 and that for several years in the past there had been a practice in several cinemas to pay extra allowance for shows above 16. The normal 16 shows comprised the two shows at 6.30 p. m. and 9.30 p.m. each day and the 3.30 p.m. shows on Saturdays and Sundays. Therefore, if the total number of shows was 18 per week, the workers must be given matinee allowance for two shows which were the extra shows if they worked at those shows.

What about the cinema workers in Bombay?

PLAYING ANGEL

Hollywood, December 30.

Clarke Gable, still at the height of his popularity, revealed a new facet of his character when he heard that his first wife, Josephine Dillon, divorced more than 25 years ago, was in dire need of financial help.

He cleared a mortgage on her house, repainted and redecorated the home and provided her with some more essentials of life. And during those 25 years, neither had said a word to the other.

Old memories perhaps touched a sympathetic chord in the actor's heart.

FISHING WITH MAMMA

Hollywood, December 22.

Montgomery Clift, the 34-year-old Hollywood actor, has acquired a new interest in Libby Holman, the one-time sensation on Broadway in the early thirties.

In London the two moved about together and set quite a few tongues wagging.

Libby, 48, inherited a big fortune after the tragic death of Smith Reynolds. Since his association with Libby, Montgomery Clift has cast off a bit of his shyness and meets press reporters freely. Libby's mellowing influence probably accounts for the change.

A POOR CHOICE

New Delhi, December 22.

President Rajendra Prasad presented the State Awards for the best films produced in the country in 1954, at a function held in the National Physical Laboratory auditorium, New Delhi, on Wednesday, December 21, attended by Cabinet ministers, members of Parliament, stars, producers, directors and Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru.

President Rajendra Prasad said that films were seen by both children and adults, liter-

ate and illiterate people and the producers, therefore, had a responsibility to give the best type of films. He deprecated the idea of using the film purely as a school for teaching. The film's function was also to entertain and to amuse. As long as the producers realized their responsibility, there was no need to interfere with the contents of films in a democratic set-up.

Mr. M. D. Bhatt, Chairman of the Central Board of Film Censors, read the report of the Central Committee for State Awards for Films. In 1954, 274 Indian feature films were approved for public exhibition. Out of this 118 were Hindi, 47 Bengali, 38 Tamil, 27 Telugu, 18 Marathi, 10 Kannada, 8 Malayalam, 3 Punjabi, 1 Oriya and 1 Assamese.

The audience was shown a few reels of "Mirza Ghalib", the best picture of the year, which won the President's Gold Medal. But as the projectors failed repeatedly, the patience of the audience was sorely tried and the complete showing of the picture had to be finally abandoned.

The projectors, perhaps, had a keener sense of judgement than the Government Committee which pronounced "Mirza Ghalib" to be the best picture of the year.

NEXT TO BE SHOT

Vienna, December 25.

Quite a few Hungarian Communist authors, playwrights and journalists are reported to be disgusted with the restrictions imposed by the Communist Party in their cultural field. At a recent meeting of the Writers Federation the dissenting writers, Tamas Aczel, Gyula Hay and Tibol Meray, showed their independence by "violating party discipline and resigning". Film and stage actors, musicians, etc., also joined in the agitation.

The Hungarian Workers Party in a resolution expressed the Party's attitude towards those rebels by denouncing "right deviationist manifestations in literature." The resolution attacked the rebels for "losing perspective of Socialism and faith in the workers and becoming advocates of decadence." It also said that "all pernicious views which violate Party discipline among writers and artists must be liquidated".

Under the dismissed Prime Minister, Mr. Nagy, there was more liberality allowed in literature. But with strict control enforced by Matyas Rakosi, the Communist Party's First Secretary, the intellectuals seem to have become restless. Aczel, Hay, Meray and a few others are now ready for the early dawn departures to heaven.

SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE

Bombay, December 31.

"Bhaubandki", a drama written by K. P. Khadilkar, has been exempted from payment of Entertainment Duty by the Government of Bombay for all performances for a period of one year ending December 31, 1956.

The exemption does not apply to performances held in aid of funds or institutions not entitled to or eligible for financial assistance from the State.

INTERVIEW IN BED

Hollywood, January 1.

Popular film actor Gregory Peck brought home a new bride, Veronique Passani, on New Year's Day.

Veronique met Gregory at Paris as a journalist commissioned to interview him. They fell in love, with each one wanting to know more about the other, leading to the marriage.

Gregory Peck got a divorce from his first wife and a day after it became final, he led Veronique to the altar. The

couple left for a three-day honeymoon. When he returns, Gregory Peck will start work on "The Man In The Grey Flannel Suit".

UNKNOWN WINNERS

Bombay, December 31.

The following three Gujarati dramas, "Mangal Mandir" of Indian National Theatre, "Ranino Bag" of Rangbhoomi, "Malela Jiv" of Ranga Mandal, were awarded the first, second and third prizes respectively in the second Bombay State Natya Mahotsava.

The panel of judges consisted of Mr. J. C. Shah, Dr. D. G. Vyas and Mr. G. C. Jhala.

As regards the Marathi dramas, "Khadashtak" by the late S. P. Joshi won the first prize of Rs. 2500|-, "Apurva Bangal" staged by the Maharashtra Kalopasak, Poona, the second prize of Rs. 1000|- and "Shreemant" by Vijay Tendulkar, the third prize of Rs. 500|-.

WHOLESALE DISTRIBUTION

London, January 2.

Queen Elizabeth showered honours on 19,000 of her subjects, ranging from Britain's charming ballerina, Margot Fonteyn, to Charles Howard, "the mosquito man", called so because he became a willing guinea pig for experiments on malaria-carrying mosquitoes at London's Hospital for Tropical Diseases. The New Year Honours List had four new Barons, three Baronets and many Knights throughout the Commonwealth.

Margot Fonteyn, 36, became Dame Commander of the British Empire, the female equivalent of a Knight. Foremost star of the popular Sadler's Wells Ballet, Margot learnt dancing from the age of four. She is married to Dr. Roberto Arias, Panamanian ambassador in London.

Tom O'Brien, general secretary of the Theatre and Cinema Workers Trade Union and Labour Member of Parliament, was knighted while Paul Scofield, 34, one of Britain's foremost Shakespearean actors, was awarded Commander of the Order of the British Empire.

AN OLD FRIEND

Bombay, December 29.

Film distributor, Mr. Vasantlal Mehta of Royal Film Circuit, died at his residence in Bombay.

Though essentially a film distributor, Mehta did produce a few pictures in the early thirties. Vasantlal Mehta took to distribution of films in 1916 and experimented with new ideas in the field of publicity to find a market for Indian films.

VIRGIN AGAIN

Reno, December 16.

Film actress Rita Hayworth secured a divorce from her fourth husband crooner Dick Haymes on December 13.

Rita is a good geometrician. She has completed a quadrangle of four husbands and may soon venture into the pentagonal sphere. She is now testing a "Tutankhamen" from Egypt for future experiments in marriage.

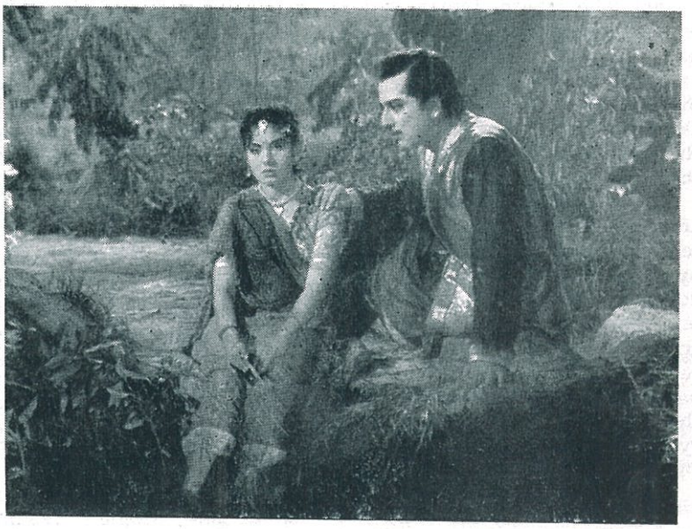
MAHENDRA'S DAYLIGHT DACOITY

New Delhi, December 14.

Mr. Mikhailov, the Soviet Minister for Culture, who accompanied Bulganin and Khrushchev to India, presented two cinema projectors and a number of children's films to the Children's Film Society.

Mr. Mikhailov visited the Children's Film Society in New Delhi on December 13 and was received by Pandit H. N. Kunzru, President of the Society, and others.

Mr. Mikhailov said that they had a special studio for cartoon and puppet films for children and they produced about 100 films every year for children. The films were usually made in colour and in different languages of the Soviet Republics. Pandit Kunzru explained to Mr. Mikhailov the activities of the Children's Film Society and promised to send the film "Bal Ramayan" which the Society was now making, to the Soviet Union.



When a woman loses her mood, no amount of jungle colours can bring colour to her cheeks. And when a seasoned sweetheart like Nimmi loses her mood not even a seasoned producer can restore it, leave alone an amateur like Pradeep Kumar. Anyway let us see what they are about in "Jayshri", a romantic tale.

Let us hope Pandit Kunzru realizes the inherent danger in the "cultural" exchange of children's films with the Soviet Union, for the Communist indoctrination of children is by now a well-established fact. We, however, like the idea of getting some free equipment and congratulate Secretary Mahendra Nath for his first successful attempt on Comrade Mikhailov.

GREEDY GUYS

Hollywood, December 30.

The advent of the Cinemascope, since the release of "The Robe", has helped to put Hollywood's film industry on a sound footing. The first man to take up Cinemascope in a big way was Spyros P. Skouras of 20th Century Fox. Now thousands of theatres all over the world have been equipped to show standard Cinemasope pictures which give a clear and infinitely better image to the spectator.

But now Darryl F. Zanuck and Skouras are closely watching the results of filming in what is known as the Super Cinemascope. In this technique, special cameras use 55 mm (55.625 mm to be exact) film which has a frame eight sprocket holes high instead of the four in 35 mm. The image is approximately four times larger than the 35 mm. Tests made by Eastman Kodak and 20th Century Fox, reveal that this is the largest practicable size.

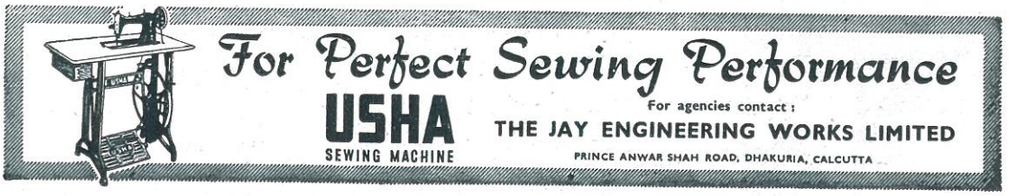
When Super Cinemascope is introduced, Hollywood producers can look forward to still better profits pouring into their coffers.

GOOD AND SENSIBLE

Madras, December 30.

The recent cyclone in the South seems to have moved the South Indian artistes, dancers and musicians to do their bit to aid the suffering cyclone victims.

Two cultural programmes staged at the Tirumalachari Kala Mandap in Triplicane, Madras, on December 24 and December 25, collected Rs.



Agents : **M/s. Bombay Premier Trading Co., Bombay.**

15,000. The South Indian Artistes Cyclone Relief Committee had already presented an amount of Rs. 41,000 to the Finance Minister, Madras, on December 18. Including the Rs. 15,000 and other donations, the total comes to Rs. 64,500.

It is a healthy sign when artistes start feeling for their fellowmen. And collecting money by giving cultural shows or by donations is more self-respecting than indulging in silly cricket 'tamashas'. We congratulate the artistes who worked hard to lessen the suffering of the homeless and the helpless cyclone victims.

ON THE MARCH

Calcutta, December 29.

Hundreds of cinema employees of Calcutta went in a procession on Wednesday, December 21, to wait on Chief Minister of Bengal, Dr. B. C. Roy, and placed before him a memorandum stating their various grievances and demands.

The procession was sponsored by the Bengal Motion Picture Employees Union. It was stopped, however, by the police at the junction of Llyons Range and Brabourne Road, as such demonstrations are banned in the area beyond, under Section 144.

Prof. N. C. Bhattacharya, Mr. Amar Kumar Bose and three other spokesmen of the demonstrators then met Dr. B. C. Roy and submitted the cinema employees' memorandum to him.

MONEY SPINNERS

Hollywood, December 20.

There is no slump for popular film stars in any part of the world and especially in Hollywood, the top ones still command a giddy price for their talent.

Crooner Frank Sinatra signed a contract for six pictures with United Artists. He gets five million dollars on delivery, his first one being "Johnny Concho", a western. Robert Mitchum earned 150,000 dollars plus 75% of the profits in his deal over "Foreign Intrigue", while Audie Murphy will easily make half a million dollars on his 10% deal of "To Hell And Back".

HER MUSCLE CONTROL

Hollywood, Decembr 18.

While there are millions who rave about pin-up girls like Marilyn Monroe and Jane Russell, M.G.M.'s fashion designer, Helen Rose, thinks that the one star with the really perfect figure is pretty dancer Cyd Charisse.

Said Helen: "I may be ruffling a few people's feelings when I say this, but Cyd Charisse is my idea of the perfect, beautiful body... "Sculpture, I used to sculpt and I know what a good figure really means. Cyd has wonderful bones, every muscle under perfect control and she moves like a dream".

Cyd's dance number in 'Deep In My Heart' is quite breathtaking. And many men probably agree with Helen Rose's opinion of the beautiful body.

NO MORE BEER

Hollywood, December 18.

Linda Darnell, 33, heroine of "Forever Amber", divorced Philip Liebmann, 40, president of Liebmann Breweries Inc., after one year and nine months of marriage.

The divorce makes Linda a free woman again to experiment once more with a "noo" one.

A NEW PIT

Las Vegas, December 19.

Hollywood director Anatole Litvak, 53, of "The Snake Pit" fame married charming French model, 32-year-old Sophie Bourdein at Las Vegas. For both it was a second marriage. Anatole Litvak's first wife was actress Miriam Hopkins.

BLUFFING BIMAL

Moscow, December 16.

Under the auspices of the Soviet Ministry of Culture, the Soviet Society for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries and the Board of Moscow Cinema Workers' Club, a meeting attended by numerous workers, staff members of the Indian Embassy, etc., was dedicated to the Indian cinema.

Sai and Subbulakshmi—the Azaad sisters—meet the Communist comrades. While Bulganin is sizing up one, Nikita Khrushchev is pawing the other. Governor Sri Prakasa looks on like a doting father. They are all seen in "Bharat Darshan", a colour documentary of Films Division.

Film director S. A. Gerasimov addressed the meeting and said that director Bimal Roy became known to Soviet audiences through his "Do Bigha Zamin". This film had attracted the people by its true-to-life characters and profound realism. Gerasimov wished his Indian friends success in the creative film art. The audience was then shown "Naukri" produced by Bimal Roy.

The Soviets seem to have suddenly developed a great love for the Indians and their films.

HIS FIRST SCORE

Hollywood, December 16.

Kirk Douglas, the actor who usually acts the 'tough guy' on the screen, became a father for the first time when his wife Anne presented him a son in Hollywood. The child will be called Peter Vincent.

Kirk Douglas was recently seen in 'Ulysses' and "20,000 Leagues Under The Sea".

A HUSBAND AHEAD

Hollywood, December 17.

Stage and screen star, Nancy Kelly, 34, married Warren Caro, the 48-year-old Theatre Guild executive at Manhattan.

It was Nancy's third marriage and Warren's second. So Nancy's marital experience is one better than Hubby Warren's.

CHEAP JEANS

Paris, December 20.

The rivalry between Gina Lollobrigida and Sophia Loren, Italy's popular pin-up actresses, is deepening every day and neither seems to blush over it.

Recently Sophia returned to Rome after a trip to Oslo and made her way through a crowd at the station with placards, "Sophia is prettier", "I dare you to measure with Gina", and told the crowd, "Gina and I are made for different roles."

Meanwhile in Paris, Gina cloaked her shapely figure in baggy clothes, wore a clown's face and false nose and began work in "Trapeze" with Burt Lancaster and Tony Curtis, saying, "I'm not a body, I'm an actress".

POLITICAL BLACKMAIL

Paris, December 31.

A charge made by the French Ministry of the Interior that a French Algerian cameraman working for Fox Movietone bribed a French auxiliary gendarme to shoot dead in cold blood a defenceless Algerian prisoner to give him a live ac-

These girls have no pockets to be picked and yet Dev Anand and Sunder have set up their shop right in their midst in "Pocket Maar", an adventure tale.

tion picture, was eventually dropped by the authorities.

The French press publicized widely the charge but it was denied by the cameraman and his employers, Fox Movietone.

The Interior Ministry originally had said the gendarme had been arrested and that "further judicial proceedings" might be taken against all persons with legal responsibility in the issue. Later a joint statement issued by the Premier's office and the Interior Ministry said, "The strip of newsreel film giving a fragmentary glance at the fact and leaving unmentioned atrocious massacres, particularly led the investigators to think that the gendarme might have been bribed. This theory does not seem to be corroborated by the inquiry now under way".

It seems to be a case of all smoke and no fire or was the matter hushed up for diplomatic purposes? It is worth knowing.

TELLING US

New York, December 29.

Actor Adolphe Menjou, known as one of the screen's best dressed men, has his own patent formula for a happy married life and he is 65 and has stayed married for twenty-one years to Verree Teasdale Menjou.

It is the sartorial angle that is most important and Menjou says, "If men would pay more attention to appearances, there would be fewer divorces. When a man goes around in a baggy, ill-fitting suit, looking something like a fugitive from the Bowery, it's no wonder that his wife loses interest in him and the tinsel starts to wear off the romance".

Our Raj Kapoors and Dilip Kumars are at the other end of sartorial perfection. They just don't care how they look as long as they have enough film contracts on hand. But then they don't care to have any home life either.

ROULETTE QUEEN

New York, January 5.

Though Grace Kelly's name has been linked with French actor Jean Pierre-Aumont in the past, it looks as if Prince Rainier III of Monaco is going to be the winner in the Kelly race for he has just announced his engagement to this charming actress.

Monaco is a tiny principality on the Mediterranean sea and the bachelor prince is at the moment on a visit to the U.S.

So Grace may soon end up as a 'princess'. The prince's 22,000 subjects are overjoyed at the idea of their Prince marrying. For if he had died without an heir, his 370-acre-kingdom would be ceded to France under a treaty concluded during World War I.

SETTLING WITH INSOLVENTS

London, January 4.

The dispute over minimum wages for British artistes has at last come to an end. The British Film Producers' Association and the British Actors' Equity Association signed a new agreement which came into force on January 2, whereby actors working on a film should be paid a minimum weekly salary of thirty pounds sterling. For those members who were engaged on a daily salary basis, the daily salary shall not be less than seven pounds sterling per day.

The agreement does not apply to instrumental musicians, crowd artistes, non-members of the Equity engaged to play special roles, and foreign artistes engaged and performing only in foreign countries.

IN NEWS ANYHOW

Los Angeles, January 4.

Red-haired actress Rita Hayworth, who has launched a £53,000 breach of contract suit with Columbia Pictures, was served with a summons for £9000 as she left the Los Angeles Federal Court on Wednesday, December 28.

Rita has claimed damages from Columbia Pictures for breaking her contract by not starting the filming of "Joseph And His Brethren" in time. Columbia is suing her for the same amount, claiming that she failed to appear for work.

The new suit has been brought by David Marcus, a lawyer, who formerly represented both Rita and her ex-husband Dick Haymes in legal proceedings.

Law suits seem to give Rita more kick than screen acting.

BUYING THEATRES

Berlin, January 5.

According to a member of the Soviet Film Delegation now touring Berlin, the Soviet Government proposes to sponsor a number of cinemas in various towns and cities of India, Egypt, Burma and Indonesia, and the Middle East.

The idea is, of course, to get more theatres for showing the Soviet product in Asian coun-

COURT NOTICES

सम्मन बाते करारदाद उमर तनकीह तलब

(आर्डर ५, कायदा १ व ५)

नम्बर मकद्दमा १०११ सन ५४

अदालत म सफी बस्ती जिला बस्ती

भवानी प्रसाद काछी मुद्दई

बनाम

रामजस वगैरह मुद्दाअलेह

बनाम रामजस वल्द दूधनाथ नौली तथा कनैल पगना नयागाव बस्ती

हरगाह वादी न आपके नाम एक नालिश बाबत इस्तकराद व दखल के दायर की है, लिहाजा आपको हुक्म होता है कि आप बतारीख १३ माह २ सन १९५६ ई० बवक्त १० बजे दिन के असालतन या मार्फत वकील के जो मुकद्दमा के हालात से करार वाकई वाकिफ किया गया हो और कुल उमरात अहम मुताल्लिका मुकद्दमा का जवाब दे सके या जिसके साथ कोई और शख्स हो कि जो जवाब ऐसे सवालात का दे सके हाजिर हो और जवाबदेही दावा की करे और अपको लाजिम है कि उसी रोज जमला दस्तावेजात पेश कर जिन पर आप बताईद अपनी जवाबदिही के इस्तदलाल करना चाहते हो।

आपको इत्तिला दी जाती है कि अगर बरीज मजकुर आप हाजिर न होंगे तो मुकद्दमा बगैर हाजिरी आपके मसमअ और फैसल होगा।

बसब्त मेरे दस्तखत और मुहर अदालत के आज बतारीख २१ माह १० सन १९५५ ई० जारी किया गया।

३२७६

They say that in Uttar Pradesh dog and man both cry and agitate for Hindi with the result that the Muslims of the province mourn over the death of Urdu.

The Court Notice reproduced above, though printed in Devnagri script, is couched in high flown Urdu. And this court notice is an official announcement of a provincial government whose official language is Hindi and nothing else but Hindi.

We don't know whether she is counting his heart beats or he is taking her pulse but if they had to embrace each other why the hell don't they do it properly? There is no romance in this paternal embrace and Anjali Devi and Ganesh should know it in "Devta", a social theme produced by Narayanan & Co. and released by Gemini.

tries. Soviet film chiefs will select 36 of Russia's best motion pictures for Western and Asian exhibitors and thus compete with American and other Western films.

The Soviet tentacles are spreading fast and widely too! In India our erstwhile guests will soon "come to dinner" it seems.

HELPING HAND

Bonn, January 6.

The Finance Ministry has approved the long pending plan of giving small subsidies for the German film industry.

The plan comprises a total of 595,000 dollars annually which will be given by the Government to the producers in the form of 'awards' for "good" films. Some of the money will be given to the Berlin Film Festival organisers, some as allowances to encourage promising authors, etc.

The Indian Government takes all the money from our film industry and pays back nothing.

MORTON SWEETS

JAPS ON WARPATH

Tokyo, January 5.

The Japanese Government at a Cabinet meeting decided to establish a "foreign film council", as a body to deliberate the foreign film import policy and also to designate excellent foreign motion pictures.

The Council will consist of two sections, one dealing with the import policy and the other with the film designation. The latter section will examine films and decide the quotas to be allocated.

The proposed Council will coordinate the Foreign Film Import Committee and the Superior Foreign Picture Examining Committee existing at present.

80 YEARS YOUNG

Paris, January 5.

Famous French music hall star, Mistinguett, died in Bougival, near Paris, of double pneumonia, at her brother's home.

One of the most illustrious music hall stars, Mistinguett entertained quite a few generations of fans and admirers, living up to a ripe old age. Her age, however, was a closely guarded secret. Some say it was over 80. Whatever it be, her claim to fame cannot be disputed.

LOST A FRIEND

London, January 24.

Well-known British film producer, Sir Alexander Korda, died in London on Monday, January 23, at the age of 62.

Born on September 16, 1893, at Turkeye, Hungary, Sir Alexander made a modest beginning as a journalist. Films, however, interested him more than straight journalism and in 1915 he wrote his first scenario in Budapest and then joined the UFA studios in Berlin. For a while he directed films in Paris but finally made England his home and became a naturalised British subject in 1936. He was made a knight in 1942.

Korda's film fame began with that famous picture "The Private Life of Henry VIII", and many more memorable ones like, "The Scarlet Pimpernel", "An Ideal Husband", "Anna Kerenina", "The Private Life of Don Juan", "Lady Hamilton", etc., soon made Sir Alexander one of the top producers.

Sir Alexander Korda produced and directed pictures in Hollywood too for some years in association with Metro Goldwyn Mayer but from 1947 onwards he concentrated on his own "London Film Productions Ltd." and made pictures in England.

In 1953 Sir Alexander Korda visited India with ambitious plans to produce a Technicolor picture on the immortal Taj. He returned to England, forgot all about the Taj and married 25-year-old Alexandra Boycun. He thus immortallized his love for the young girl, his first marriage to film actress Merle Oberon having proved a complete failure.

Though Editor Baburao Patel was responsible for banning Korda's anti-Indian picture, "The Drum", they still remained the best of friends; Editor Patel was Korda's guest in England in 1939 when the picture "Thief of Baghdad" was being shot and in 1953 when Sir Alexander came to Bombay, Editor Patel returned the compliment and threw a colourful party at "Girnar".

Tall and bespectacled, Sir Alexander's unruly bunch of grey hair and Hungarian-accented English added greatly to his personal charms.

Sir Alexander Korda will no doubt be missed by his millions of admirers but to Editor Patel, it is a great personal loss. May his soul rest in peace!

The nose-ring is a useful instrument to bring down age and lend a youthful complexion to an old charmer. Shyama makes Sadiq's "Chhoo Mantar", an interesting entertainment.

BACK TO THE SKIN

Though the French show 'Folies Bergere' has been the envy of many nations for long, in Paris itself, a new form of strip-tease imported from America has taken Parisians by storm.

It all started when a Parisian antique dealer called Alain Bernardin got fed up with "a naked woman standing stock still on a stage with an idiotic look on her face". So he opened a night club fashioned after America's 'wild west' and a strip-tease girl Miss Fortunia to entertain the customers. Her act at the Crazy Horse Saloon caught the fancy of the public and last week the new strip-tease swept Paris from Montparnasse to Montmartre. Other Parisian night clubs advertised new names, Rita Cadillac and Kira Tekitoff to lure more people.

The Minsky strip-act has changed slightly for the better. There are fewer bumps and grinds and the French don't shout, "Take it off" as much as the Americans.

Many salesgirls, typists, etc., are likely to take part in the 1956 International Amateur Strip-tease Contest, with the strip-tease idea spreading fast.

The new trend seems to be moving towards the old Adam-and-Eve civilization under some pretext or other.

JUNGLE GIRL

Bertha Hertogh, popularly known as the "jungle girl", was married to a 22-year-old Muslim Malay school-teacher in Singapore at the age of 13, by her foster mother, a Malay nurse. When a British court annulled the marriage, there were terrific riots staged by the Muslims in Singapore, killing many Europeans, burning alive quite a few and injuring nearly 200 others.

Now the 'jungle girl' has really grown up into an 18-year-old maiden and has been engaged to a Dutch national serviceman called Joham Wolkenfelt, 21. When Bertha left Singapore for the Netherlands five years ago, she was hugging a doll. Soon she will be hugging a husband.

Born a Roman Catholic, she was spirited out of Java by a Malay nurse when her parents were interned by the Japanese during World War II. She was hidden for eight years and then converted to Islam by the nurse, her foster mother. When Mrs. Hertogh tried to get legal custody of her child from the Malay nurse, Bertha then 13, was quickly married to a Malay Muslim.

HOUNDING

With the Bantu Education Act in force in South Africa, there are quite a few cases of "illegal education" in the South African courts whereby Africans are convicted for teaching in "cultural clubs".

Many Africans are opposed to the Bantu Education Act because it makes their children feel inferior to the whites. So "cultural clubs" and many unregistered schools have come into existence. The police swooped on one such "club" and proved that it was in fact a school. The school was run by the Seventh Day Adventist Church where Meluko Tulo, a 25-year-old African woman, the accused, received no salary, only gifts varying from 10 shillings to £4 a month.

The magistrate accepted that education was being given and that the group comprised a school in terms of the Bantu Education Act and fined Tulo £10 or a month's imprisonment in default for conducting an unregistered school.

The segregation policy of South Africa is taking the most queer shape where even imparting education is looked upon as 'crime'.

DEFAMATION

Manhattan-born soprano Maria Meneghini Callas filed a damages suit on Prince Marcantonio Pacelli, nephew of Pope Pius XII and president of an Italian sphagetti firm, because he advertised in the weekly L'Europeo that Maria lost her weight eating his 'no-calorie' sphagetti.

Said Maria, "The public wants Callas to be noble and delicate .....Woe betide if, opposed to this idealistic spirituality, the public should discover a behind-scenes manoeuvre whereby a dainty Butterfly is achieved only through a cure with a special macaroni."

Going crazy has also become a craze. They all have Mambo look these days. Shyama is now too old for a nose ring. Anyway let us see what she is doing with it in "Chhoo Mantar", produced and directed by M. Sadiq.

The 32-year-old 'dainty Butterfly' who once weighed 200 pounds is now a 'noble, delicate' 135-pounder. And she wants to keep her slimming secret to herself. If there is no macaroni behind the secret, let us say it was a man who helped Maria Meneghini Callas in her streamlining process. Love is also a great weight-reducer till the fish is not caught.

A NEW COMMUNITY

Homosexuality in Britain is no more a tabooed subject, since Parliamentary members discussed the subject in Parliament openly. An eleven-man committee of doctors and psychiatrists was formed and asked to report on the problem. The British Medical Journal recently published a summary of the committee's report.

Some of the facts observed by the committee are: Active homosexuals in Britain constitute between 2 and 3% of the adult male population—or approximately 500,000 men. Homosexual offences have increased more than eight times since 1930.

The committee felt that homosexuals should be regulated legally to protect the young from seduction and to keep public order because "the behaviour and appearance of homosexuals congregating blatantly in public houses and restaurants are an outrage to public decency."

Another aspect of homosexuals, the committee pointed out, is their "alleged tendency to place their loyalty to one another above their loyalty to the

That is a pretty wild and primitive dress but the one who wears it is no less. Nigar Sultana was never more natural than in "Mastani", a wild adventure of love and song.

institution or government they serve, and on the part of homosexuals in positions of authority to give preferential treatment to homosexuals or to require homosexual subjection as expedient for promotion....the existence of practising homosexuals in the Church, Parliament, the Civil Service, the Armed Forces constitutes a special problem."

The only silver lining about British homosexuality is that it is not so high as to have an appreciable effect on the marriage and birth rate.

BULL BEATER

Luis Miguel Dominguin, 30, the world's most skilful bullfighter, made a glorious comeback in Maracay, a prosperous Venezuelan city, and thrilled the citizens with his fine display of bullfighting. He was paid $50,000 while tickets were priced from $10 to $50 a seat.

The bull was from the famous San Mateo ranch of Mexico and Luis killed it with one thrust, winning both ears and the tail. The joyful people later paraded their hero round the town on their shoulders.

Luis Miguel Dominguin retired in 1953 from bullfighting after he suffered a bad horn wound. Luis is a millionaire who doesn't really need to earn money from bullfighting. But he returned to the arena out of "curiosity" and because "one does what one feels he has to do". Said Dominguin, "Now I fight because I like it."

He was Ava Gardner's beau for a while but last year he married pretty Lucia Bose, Miss Italy of 1947. He couldn't have a thrust at Ava.

GODSPEED

'Satyagraha', a form of passive resistance popularized by Mahatma Gandhi, is being used effectively by 40,000 Negroes of Montgomery and Alabama, U.S.

The trouble started when Loza Park, a Negro woman, refused to give up her seat to a white passenger. She was arrested on the spot and fined five pounds sterling. The next day, 40,000 Negroes decided to boycott the bus service and went walking to work. And the bus company's financial success depends very much on the Negro patronage.

National City Lines Bus Company, a Chicago Corporation, was forced to garage 80% of its buses. The Negro satyagraha has been going on for the last five weeks.

REBELLION

Madame Fatmawati Soekarno, the first wife of President Soekarno of Indonesia, filed divorce proceedings against her husband and requested Dr. Soekarno, Mohammed Hatta and the Indonesian Cabinet to consider her suit and "handle it in the best possible way".

Fatmawati went into oblivion when the President married Hartini, a divorcee and mother of five children, in 1954. Many women's organisations of Indonesia staged demonstrations against Hartini and Dr. Soekarno.

Fatmawati has now left the Presidential palace and gone to her home in Djakarta. She probably could not bear the idea of playing second fiddle to Hartini. The Muslim woman seems to be fast realizing that the Islamic licence for four wives is not quite a just measure for the women.

POOR JOHN

American multi-millionaire John D. Spreckels, heir to a princely fortune of $2 million, surprised his friends when he appeared in a Seattle Court and decided to change his surname to 'Smith'. The reason he quoted was, "People think I'm a financier and a playboy. I'm neither."

At 45, Spreckels has already divorced four wives, Roxana Brown, Mary Lavinia Miller, Lou Dell and Margaret Lee. And now he complains of not having money too. Must be a trying situation without wives and money. Or did the wives nab all the money?

PRINCE FORD

The Ford Foundation announced a gift of 500 million dollars for the benefit of American colleges and hospitals.

This is said to be the largest single gift in the history of American philanthropy. It is also 150 million dollars larger than any other single grant made by the Foundation since it was set up in 1936.

Let us hope our Birlas and Dalmias know how money is to be used.

IMPORTS ARE HIGHER

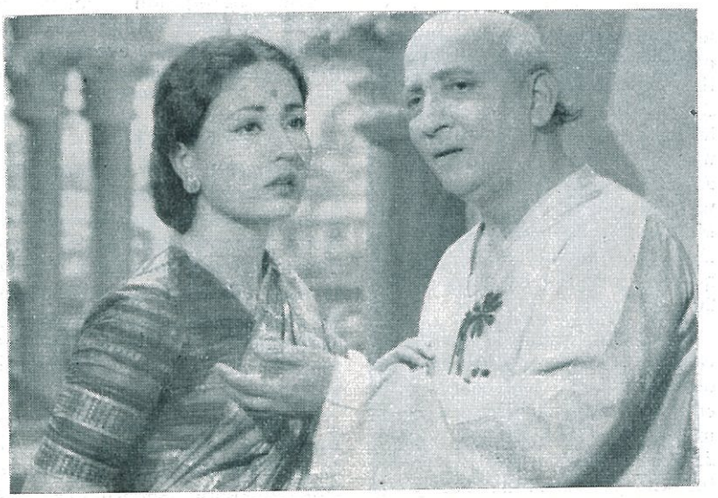
A report by the United States Immigration Service said that nearly 12,000 persons were classed as 'undesirables' and thrown out of the United States in 1955.

Over 11,000 persons including 35 foreigners were found guilty of subversive activities and had been expelled. 843 foreigners had to be expelled from the country for committing acts of immorality.

1,635,702 foreigners entered the United States in 1955.

PRIVATE ESTATE

While Greeks, Turks and the British are breaking heads over the authority of the little island of Cyprus, French businessman M. Rouland Roux de Lusignan,



David has plenty of sympathy for every one in distress as long as you don't ask him for a substantial contribution. And when a young one like Meena Kumari rushes to him for rescue, David gets really worried in "Amar Bani",, a social tale produced by Sirkar Productions.

has come out with a fantastic claim that the island of Cyprus belongs to him.

Rouland said that the island had been his family's private property since the 12th century. The Lusignans bought Cyprus from the Knights Templar for 100,000 bezants. Said he, "We will demand the return of our property."

The family lawyer has not yet decided whether the claim should be filed in a French or international court or directly to Queen Elizabeth.

A year-and-a-half ago the Lusignan claims were printed in the form of a 96-page memorandum and sent to the U.N. The U.N. Administrative Secretary said that the memorandum would be studied whenever the Cyprus question came up for discussion.

So we have one more claimant to worsen the Cyprus headache.

OLD MOGHUL IDEA

The desire of mortals for immortality is hard to cure and many are the shapes it takes in this mad ambition. Popular singer Josephine Baker, 49, once the toast of Paris, wants to guarantee her future immortality by erecting her own memorial and her husband's in their 460-acre estate near Perigord in south west France.

The memorial in stone will show this one-time Folies Bergere artiste in saintly garb, arms outstretched in compassion over the kneeling figures of seven children of various races, corresponding to her own seven adopted children, a waxen image of Josephine and the children going up a hill with a cross and a figure of Josephine's husband, French Jazz Maestro Jo Bouillon, on his knees receiving the blessings of Pope Pius XII.

Josephine's vision evidently is well glued to the future. The Moghul emperors of India always built their own tombs in advance knowing fully well that their sons would have thrown their corpses into the river.

THE POOR RICH

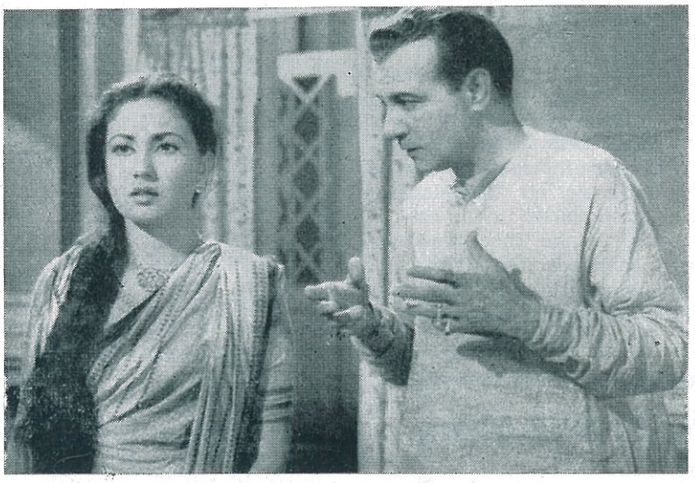
One of the biggest gem thefts in history occurred in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Oppenheimer at Johannesburg, South Africa, when unique jewellery worth $700,000 were stolen by a thief, in spite of five African night watchmen. The thief unlocked a hidden safe, stripped its shelves of 63 pieces and removed a $175,000 bracelet, a matching ring of pink and blue diamonds worth $75,000 and a pair of diamond earrings. He put them in a jewel wooden box, re-locked the safe and then disappeared. The theft was discovered by Mrs. Harry the next morning.

Mrs. Oppenheimer's husband and his father, Sir Ernest, control 95% of the world's diamonds with their De Beers Consolidated Mines Ltd., and own the Anglo American Corporation which mines nearly 1/5th of South Africa's gold. Sir Ernest, born in Germany 75 years ago, began life as an ordinary office boy with a London diamond dealer. In 1902 he migrated to Kimberley and soon rose to become South Africa's biggest financier. Sir Ernest, they say, "collects diamonds the way other men collect stamps".

Photographs of the jewels have been radioed to the police all over the world. It will be difficult for the thief to swallow such a costly meal with the world police on the diamond-hunt.

The thief seems to have learnt his tricks from some American motion pictures.

At the end of every romance comes God and according to the Indian film producers, a prayer at the crucial time dissolves all clouds and throws the sweetheart into the arms of her lover. Meena Kumari asks for favours in "Amar Bani", a domestic tale produced by Sirkar Productions.



When he meets "noo" ones this old veteran dramatises every word that he utters. Motilal is trying to shape Meena Kumari in "Amar Bani", a Sirkar production.

GETTING DULL

The Communist ideology, which regiments the individual in thought and deed, is having its effect on Russian music, an effect which has been described by the Soviet paper 'Pravda' as 'dull'.

While Soviet music and musical criticism had "gained in the struggle against formalism, naturalism, aestheticism, cosmopolitanism and against the neglect of the classical heritage and manifestations of anti-popular bourgeois ideology", Pravda reported that composers of opera seemed to be uninspired by life in today's Communist Russia. It said that many Soviet composers dig up plots from the non-Communist past.

That probably worries the present Communist lords. No sacrifice is great enough for Communists.

Age never stops them from looking like brides. It is their mirror which does the trick with women. Nigar Sultana makes a brave attempt to create new thrills on the screen in "Mastani", a mad tale of love.

PLUS SALES

A new miracle-reducing solution called Minus, prepared from a special kind of algae found off the Norwegian Atlantic Coast, sold like hot cakes in Sweden. The medicine was given wide publicity and within an hour of its appearance at the drug stores, every jar of Minus was sold out.

Minus is supposed to inhibit the appetite. Every new miracle-reducer that comes into the market has devoted followers all over the world.

INDEED

At a meeting attended by 150 leading scientists of India in Lucknow, Dr. N. R. Dhar said that there there was no country "so ill-fed and suffering from malnutrition as India". The average calorie intake in India per day was 1620, 1880 in Ceylon, 1960 in the Philippines, 1970 in Japan, 2020 in Pakistan, 2050 in China, 3020 in the U.S.S.R. and 3117 in the U.S.A.

The scientists had just finished a sumptuous six-course lunch before listening to the lecture and some of them found it hard to believe that India was the world's "hungriest nation".

MECHANICAL AID

An electronics enigneer, Neil Slatter, has invented a new instrument to induce varying degrees of hypnosis in medical and dental cases.

The subject sits in an easy chair and looks into a light-projector about six feet away. He also puts on a telephonic headset to listen. The greenish light from the projector decreases in intensity as he inhales his breath, and increases when he exhales. There is a corresponding sound tone which increases and diminishes in volume. The machine is set for cycles of audio-visual stimuli, about 20 per minute, the normal breathing rate. After a while the rate goes down to 12 and the subject unconsciously begins to relax and feel sleepy. Within 15 or 25 minutes, the subject falls into a twilight sleep and the doctor or the dentist begins his suggestions.

NOTHING NEW

Dr. Steven C. Vandenburg, psychologist of the University of Michigan's Institute of Human Biology, addressing the American Psychological Association, said recently, that heredity more than environment is responsible in moulding the individual. His conclusions were based on 45 sets of identical (twins formed from a single egg) and 37 sets of fraternal (twins formed from two ova) twins from the high schools of Detroit, Dearborn, Ypsilanti and Ann Arbor.

Twins when brought up in the same environment often show the same traits, and exhibit similar tastes in pictures, colour, music, etc. This is even more pronounced in the case of identical twins. There was even some evidence found by Dr. Vandenburg that the ability to read and spell was limited by heredity. In his study of twins, Dr. Vandenburg made sure that the environment was the same for the different sets. Any differences in behaviour could therefore be put down to heredity.

NEW HOPE

Two Australian scientists, Dr. J. Cymerman Craig, of Sydney University and Prof. Sydney Rubbo, of Melbourne University, have hit upon a new drug called Verozide, working for five years in laboratories 500 miles apart and with a terrific shortage of funds.

As with so many important medical discoveries, Verozide—a derivative of isoniazid—was discovered by accident. "We were testing a technique for healing ulcers and we chanced on it in 1953." This anti-T. B. drug which cost less than a £1000 for its discovery, is being perfected and will be soon available to T. B. patients at a comparatively low cost.

GENTLE APPROACH

A new way of administering anaesthesia to young children practised in America these days is through different kinds of toys, like dolls, teddy bears, telephones, etc.

The toy is handed over to the child in the operating room. As the child begins to play with it, gas comes out from a hidden tube in the toy. When the child drops asleep, deeper anaesthesia is given through a mask.

The child's natural fears of new sights and smells in the operation room are thus eliminated via the toy medium.

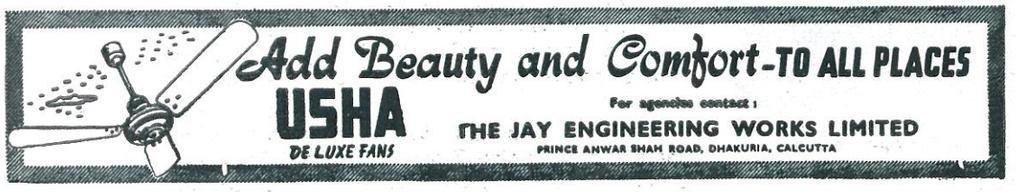
NEW USE

Drs. William B. Fischer and Irvin Clayton of Northwestern University Medical School report that the bone of young cows has "proved very satisfactory so far for grafting in humans". Calf-bone grafting was tried on a dozen patients and their bone cells formed new crystals round the grafted calf-bone.

Calf-bone is cheap and simple to use and is available in large quantities. That is a new incentive to kill more calves.

DIGGING FOR FAME

Soviet scientist, P. Kapterev, is reported to have succeeded in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PRINCE ANWAR SHAH ROAD, DHAKURIA, CALCUTTA

Agents : M/s. Bombay Premier Trading Co., Bombay.

thawing out and resuscitating mosses and crayfish eggs which had been frozen for ages. After being re-vivified, the crayfish even reproduced.

The scientists now believe that human beings can be brought back to life thousands of years after death, provided they are kept in perpetual deep-freeze. Many of them are carrying out experiments on resuscitation in perpetually frozen areas of the Soviet Union.

The Soviets, it seems, won't even let the dead rest in peace.

"PEACE" FIENDS

On the 76th birth anniversary of M. Stalin, six foreign "peace champions" were awarded Stalin Peace Prizes. The prize instituted in 1951 is worth about £9000 and includes a gold medal and a diploma.

The recipients were Joseph Wirth, former German Chancellor and Senor Lazar Cardenas, a former President of Mexico, Sheikh Mohammed Al Ashmaru of Syria, Mr. Ton Dik Thang, Chairman of the National Front Committee of North Viet Nam, Mr. Akiko Seki, a Japanese artist and Pastor Ragamar, former Chaplain of Oslo Cathedral.

Comrade Ahmed Abbas has still to stand in the queue preaching the Communist gospel of 'peace'. Let us hope he doesn't get rheumatism waiting for the Stalin Peace Prize.

NOISY FELLOW

Vladimiro Sante Vanniri, a 30-year-old Italian bandleader, claimed a new piano-playing record by playing the piano uninterrupted for 49 hours, 1 minute and 27 seconds, in Florence. Vladimiro's endurance test began with the song "White Christmas" and also ended with the same song.

His record was better than Donald Bird of U.S. by 1 hour, 1 minute and 27 seconds.

SUGARED HIM

Sugar Ray Robinson knocked out Carl 'Bobo' Olson, the reigning world middle-weight champion, in the second round of their scheduled fifteen-round title bout at Chicago.

Sugar Ray is the first man in boxing history to regain the middle-weight title twice. The first time he got it back was when he defeated English champion, Randolph Turpin. Robinson had lost his title to Turpin earlier in the year in 1951. In 1952 Sugar Ray relinquished his title to take part in song and dance programmes.

Olson is eight years younger than Sugar Ray and weighs 11 stones, 5¼ pounds, as against Sugar Ray's 11 stones, 5¾ pounds.

COULDN'T HELP

Dr. H. G. Moghe, a well-known dentist of Bombay, accidentally discovered a find of considerable archaeological importance, identified to be the ninth rock edict of Emperor Ashok, near Sopara in Thana district.

The eighth edict was found in 1860 near the same place. There are 14 Ashokan edicts found in different parts of India and they contain the moral precepts preached by the Emperor.

The present edict in Pali language and Brahmi script was identified by Prof. N. A. Goray of the Asiatic Society. Sopara is said to have been the capital of the Konkan from 500 B.C. to A.D. 1300. Many Buddhist writers believe that Gautam Buddha, in one of his former births, was Bodhisattva of Sopara. In the Mahabharat, Sopara is referred to as a holy place.

The dentist this time pulled out a tooth from the mouth of Mother Earth.

OLD ANCESTORS

Italian archaeologists, Carlo Blanc and Luigi Cardini, found 22 fossilized stone axe-heads used by pithecanthropu (ape man) in his battle with mastodons and tigers at 120 feet below sea level in Pietra, north of Rome. Count Francesco Pellati, President of the Italian Institute of Human Paleonto-

READ—

WHAT A FAMOUS TEAM OF INTERNATIONAL ANALYSTS THINKS OF:

"DILIP KUMAR AMROSE SYRUP"

Italab Ltd. No. P/ 19752

Industrial Testing & Analytical Laboratories

BOMBAY

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS

1 PARTICULARS OF SAMPLE SUBMITTED: By Messrs. Mother India Products, Bombay. 20.

a. Nature of Sample: DILIP KUMAR AMROSE SYRUP
b. Reference No.: -
c. Date of Receipt: 26th September, 1955
d. Quantity: 2 Quart Bottles.

2 RESULTS OF ANALYSIS:

Each fluid ounce contains:-

Citric Acid (lemon juice)	27	milligrams
Sucrose (cane sugar)	21.26	grammes
Reducing Sugars (glucose)	2.87	grammes
Protein	20	milligrams.
Minerals (ash)	190	milligrams.
Calcium	16	milligrams.
Phosphorus	6	milligrams.
Vitamin C (ascorbic acid)	1	milligram.
Calorific Value	239	
Preservatives	Absent	

From the above results, we certify that the sample is a very palatable nutritious and restorative syrup. It has a pleasant saffron flavour and is free from all preservatives.

Tests carried out by: Kmshah. Dated 19-10-55.

Countersigned: Director

NO OTHER SYRUP IN INDIA OR ABROAD HAS YET GOT SUCH A WONDERFUL CERTIFICATE OF MERIT FROM PROFESSIONAL CHEMISTS.

DILIP KUMAR AMROSE SYRUP

IS THUS NOT MERELY A SUMMER SYRUP IT IS AN ALL-SEASON RESTORATIVE FOR THE SICK AND AILING. IT BUILDS STRENGTH & VIGOUR AFTER ILLNESS. IT IS A GRAND BREATHER FOR ALL SPORTSMEN.

With that dress on, the technique of wooing men must also change. Men are of course treated as pet puppies. Here is Nadira sizing up Dev Anand in "Pocket Maar", the romance of a pickpocket.

logy, said that the relics belonged to the oldest known form of human beings who probably lived 200,000 years ago.

Twenty feet above the level of the axe-heads, the scientists found relics of the Neanderthal Man. He lived tens of thousands of years after the ape man. The Italian scientists ranked the new finds with paleolithic discoveries in Algeria and on the Atlantic coast of Morocco in 1954.

READY FOR GRAZING

Nowadays we always talk of Mars and Venus as if they were our next-door neighbours. Well, according to astronomer Dr. E. C. Slipher of Lowell University, Mars was just 39,800,000 miles away from us last summer.

Last year Dr. Slipher and his colleagues photographed Mars, spending six months in South Africa, on film dyed in blue, yellow-green and red. The photographs show a green area measuring roughly 200,000 square miles. Slipher calls this "the greatest change observed in the geography of the planet since its surface was first mapped 125 years ago".

The green area, according to Dr. Slipher and other astronomers, means that there is a kind of vegetation on Mars, probably lichens, a primitive form of plant life.

RADIO-ACTIVE BREAD

Atom-treated wheat and barley seeds were sown in well-guarded plots of ground at a government establishment in Oxfordshire.

After harvest next summer, the crop will be examined by scientists to find out if nuclear processes have resulted in a fresh strain of cereal being established.

A pilot experiment was made last year and these trials will show what new characteristics have developed in the atom-treated wheat.

THE INDIAN WAY

A new technique to preserve fruits like mango, guava, citrus, etc., from the attacks of the destructive fruit fly have been evolved by the Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore.

Soon after the fruits are picked, they are placed in an earthern pot or some such container to fill up ¾th of the space. A wad of cotton wool is kept on the top of the fruits and a solution of ethylene dibromide (1 cc of chemical per 100 pounds of fruit) dropped on it. The pot is sealed airtight with the help of mud plaster to keep intact the vapours of the chemical. After four hours, the pot is opened and the fruits exposed to the air for an hour. The fruits are ready for safe consumption.

Fortunately this treatment does not change the appearance or flavour of the fruit. In some cases the fruits have ripened into more attractive colours.

CLEOPATRA'S DAY OUT

A new gadget called the "Calendar Determinant" measuring 10" by 7½" developed by Osmond Robin of Croydon, England, gives you the day of the week for any date from 1800 to 2199 A.D. with a few wrist manipulations. By means of slides it can display the calendar for any Gregorian month in a span of 400 years. Its range can be extended indefinitely.

Considering the many irregularities and the inconsistencies present in our Gregorian calendar, it is a wonder how the complex calculations have been so well worked out.

CHEAPER MUSIC

Radio Corporation of America has developed a transistorized automobile radio that operates directly from a 6-volt car battery and requires 1|10th of the power used by a conventional car radio. It can also be adapted in automobile with 12-volt batteries.

The new radio which has 9 transistors in place of electron tubes, consumes so little current that the drain on the car battery is not much and even if the driver forgets to switch off the radio while parking, there will not be a battery failure. Though its external appearance is like the present car radios, it requires no vibrator, power transformer, or rectifier — to increase and control the power level.

Another advantage of the transistorized radio is that it is able to perform over a wide range of temperatures, at — 40 deg. F and up to 176 deg. F.

ROLLING RUSSIANS

Every day we hear something new and sensational happening in Soviet Russia besides seasonal executions of those unfortunates out of favour. Recently we were told by Moscow Radio that the Soviets have invented a train without wheels, and one such runs outside Moscow at the moment.

The new ball-borne train doesn't make a noise like the ordinary train. Instead of rails there is a concave concrete channel.

The inventor of this train is now working on various variants of this kind of transport. In one type of vehicle, he has dispensed with the concrete channel. The principle will be applied to cars and tractors soon.

SINGING STOVE

A West Berlin housewife was very much intrigued when her perfectly normal electric kitchen stove started playing radio programmes. This was the second time that radio engineers heard this phenomenon. The first 'mystery receiver' was a rain pipe in an old farm house.

The radio engineers examined the old kitchen stove but found no secret devices. They therefore concluded that the near-by relaying towers of a

CAN YOU WRITE?

If you have ideas and if you can put them on paper in an attractive manner, in words or sketches, Filmindia is interested in buying them. Unique and unusual contributions on art, travel, fashions, politics, culture, music, dancing, industry, commerce, insurance, trades, professions, economics, science and all other fields of human activity will be considered and suitably paid for if accepted. Articles on films are not required.

Short stories on Indian life up to 3000 words are also invited. All material should be neatly typed and double-spaced on one side of the paper. Return postage should be enclosed.

Our payments are good and prompt. Address all manuscripts to the Editor, Filmindia, Fort, Bombay 1.

NO INSURANCE HEADACHE

The campaign which we had launched two years ago against the numerous frauds and sharp practices prevalent in our insurance business was crowned with unexpected success on 19th January 1956 when the Government of India announced nationalization of all life insurance business in the country whether done by the Indian Companies or foreign ones.

This move on the part of the Government makes the money of the policyholders absolutely secure, that is as secure as the Government itself. Incidentally, the huge funds of the insurance companies, which were often misused for personal designs as alleged in the Dalmia case, will now be used for the promotion of our vital nation-building plans and projects. Let us hope all this money is wisely used.

There is therefore no further necessity of selecting a good and safe company for one's life insurance—all companies having merged into a State Corporation. And as the resources of all companies—small and big—will be pooled, even policies in those small companies, which were shivering till yesterday, will now be secure and stable and even earn a bonus.

radio station had some unexplained effect on the metals in the stove, turning it into a primitive receiver.

If our stoves start acting as receivers, we stand the risk of getting bored with Keskar's 'classical' programmes in our kitchens as well.

OUR NEW KILLER

The National Chemical Laboratory at Poona is reported to have evolved a new process of manufacturing an insecticide from tobacco waste — nicotine sulphate. At present nicotine sulphate is imported from abroad.

Every year 38,000,000 pounds of tobacco waste are available together with 25,000,000 pounds of tobacco stalks, both of which constitute the raw material for the extraction of nicotine sulphate. Indian chemists have now found a way to utilize this waste.

PENETRATING TV

The U.S. Air Force has discovered a hypersensitive television system that sees things in what looks like total darkness.

Preliminary tests were made on moonless nights at 20,000 feet above the Wright Air Development Centre, in Dayton, Ohio and the unit got a fine picture of the countryside below. The television system is illuminated by bit of starlight and some traces of sunlight that are always present around the earth.

The system will soon be presented in colour.

SAVING EARS

A new type of sieve-like silencer for jet engines has been devised by the United Aircraft Corporation of U. S., which might lessen the terrific noise of jet engines while taking-off or landing.

The silencer changes the low roar of the exhaust to a high-pitched hiss and can be turned on or off at will by the pilot. Instead of letting the gases through one large opening, it comes through many tiny holes. Hence the rise in the pitch. While cruising the silencer is kept around the tail cone with the nozzle open. For take-off and climb, the device can be extended rearward, exposing the sieve holes.

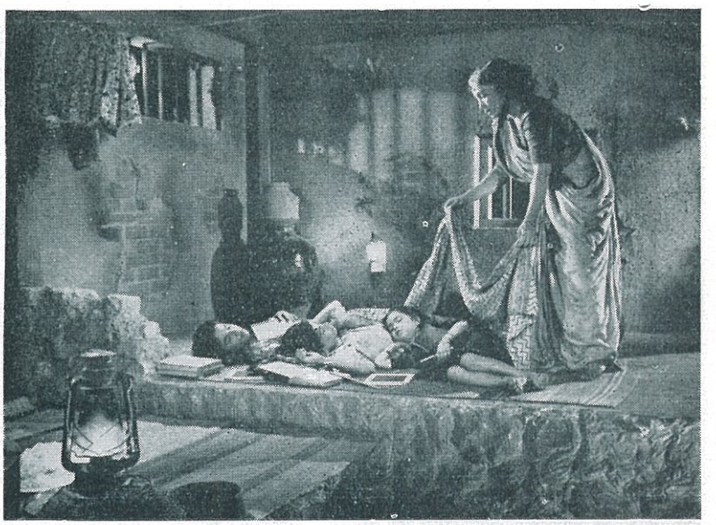
That way we will be able to eliminate the ear-splitting roar of modern jets, the noisiest machines made by man.

JAP CAR

Leading car manufacturers of Japan are now competing to produce a low-priced "people's car". Early in 1955, the Ministry of Trade and Industry had suggested production of a four-passenger car costing 200,000 yen to 250,000 yen.

Komatsu Works, a munitions firm producing tanks, arms, etc., surprised established automakers by announcing the mass production of a people's car priced at 300,000 yen. The other manufacturers are also planning cheap cars on similar lines.

At present Japan produces 23,000 — 24,000 small and medium cars yearly. Their minimum price of 800,000 yen is about double that of foreign makes.



That is Nehru's India—with three sleeping "years" out of the first Five-Year Plan. If the grown-ups didn't feel chilly so often, we won't have so many shivering little ones. Meet them all with Lalita Pawar in "Maalik", a thematic tale of modern India.

SPRINKLING SEED

The Auster Agricola is the first aircraft in the world which has been specially designed for "aerial topdressing" — the technique of spreading fertilisers from the air—and is being used in New Zealand, the one country which leads the world in the use of aircraft for agriculture.

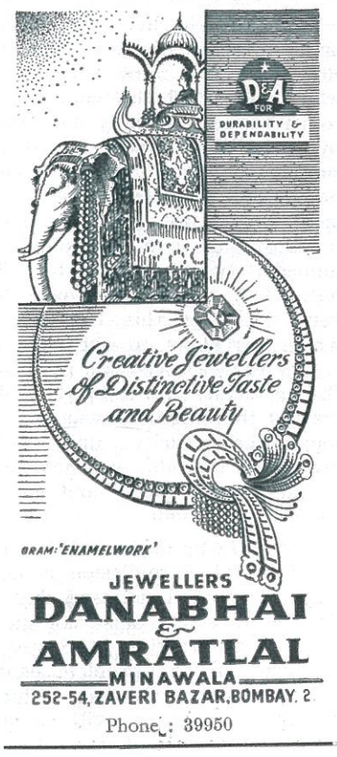
The Agricola is fitted with a 250 h.p. engine, has a take-off run of only 250 yards with a load weighing ¾ of a ton. Low pressure, large diameter tyres enable the aircraft to operate from soft ground. The chemical fertilisers are stored in a "trunk" positioned behind the cockpit.

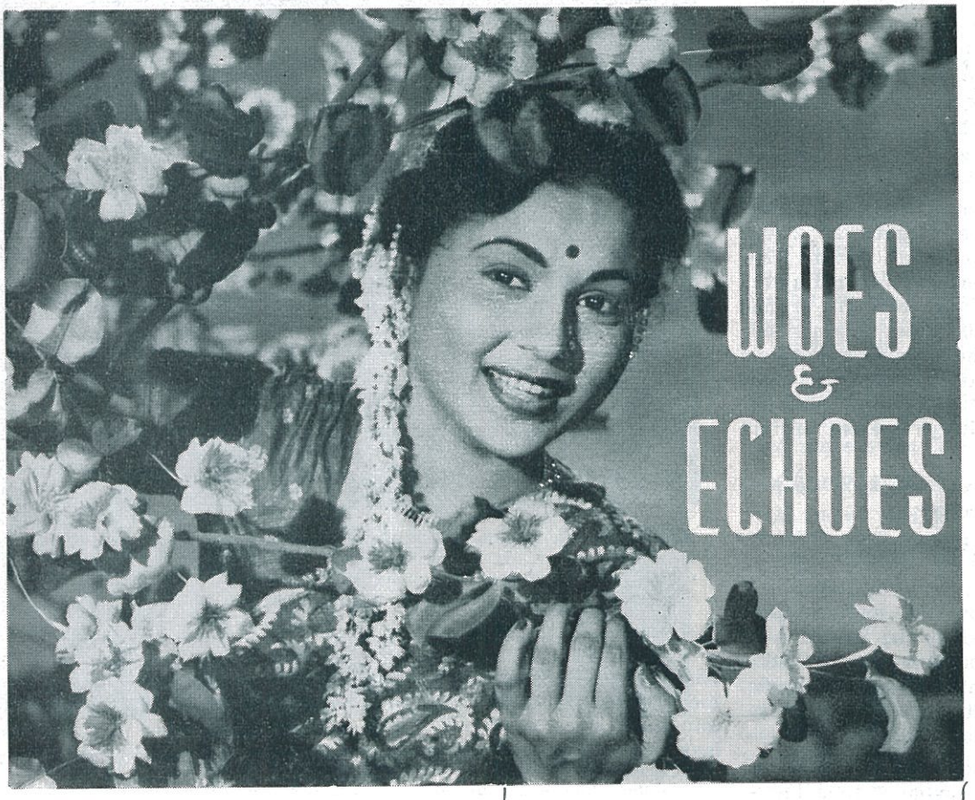
Other countries, U.S., Australia, and some South American countries follow the technique of 'aerial topdressing' to improve pastures in hilly areas.

FLYING CYCLE

The U.S. Army has purchased twelve experimental models of the "aerocycle", a one-man flying machine which can be used by soldiers for mobility in case of an atomic war.

The aerocycle is a 200-pound helicopter-type lifting device with a small platform. It can come down either on land or sea. It has a maximum speed of 65 miles an hour and can carry 300 pounds. The control mechanism governing vertical motion and speed is like that in a motor-cycle.





A woman who keeps her heart young doesn't have to worry much about age nor about men. This old charmer is still good enough to raise a new thrill and it is worth seeing AVM's "Bhai Bhai" to see which "bhai" Nirupa Roy has seduced and married.

Rs. 5/- will be paid for every letter published in this section.

POWER IS UNPATRIOTIC

"Close on the heels of your frank, bold and inspiring editorial "Rushing To The Rocks" in the June issue of "filmindia" which predicted the shape of things to come, we have already had some glimpses by now. Your excellent editorial "Midsummer Madness" in the December issue has come at a time when the linguistic monster has raised its ugly head in many parts of India and particularly in Bombay immediately after the S.R.C. Report was out. The editorial at once touches the very depth of this linguistic onslaught which threatens to usher in a linguistic rather than a socialistic pattern of society. Giving lucidly in a nutshell a historical review of this linguistic war on which hinges today the security, unity and economic prosperity of India, you have made a timely plea for a wiser and more moderate counsel to prevail.

"Your laying finger on the vital fact that the Fazl Ali Commission is not merely a linguistic commission and that the linguistic factors solely must not guide the proposed redistribution of States, highlights *the crux of the problem especially that* of cosmopolitan Bombay. This major emphasis, it is hoped, will be ever kept in view and the fate of Bombay will be decided on a bilingual basis as recommended by the S.R.C. and emphasized by you.

"Nehru has allowed far too long a lease to linguistic spokesmen all over the country to voice their separatist claims, which if fulfilled, will spell the death knell of the unity in diversity of this ancient land. As cautioned by you, it is high time that the country returned to a proper sense of proportion and perspective viewing the problem primarily as one of integrity rather than dissection of the country. If not, the day is not far off when these Congress politicians whose responsibility it is to fashion India's destiny will be accused of being sadly possessed by "Midsummer Madness" so aptly described by you. There is still time to return to wisdom and sanity."

BOMBAY. **Mansukh G. Bhagat.**

EXPOSED, NOT EXTERMINATED

"One very important result of the S.R.C. Report has been that many Congressmen have shown themselves in their true colour and this has given Nehru an overdue and *much needed opportunity to know the persons*, good and bad, patriots and traitors, unitarians and disruptionists in his own organisation. So much selfishness, bigotry, communalism, provincialism and indiscipline have been displayed by our erstwhile freedom fighters on this subject that we wonder and wonder how these persons could ever pose themselves as people who had the country's welfare uppermost in their heart.

"It was the anti-national outlook of such petty politicians that prompted our Prime Minister to remark in Parliament the other day that he wanted to send a few representatives in the advisory committees for States so that the representatives from the States may not gang up against the Centre. It is fortunate for the country that wolves in sheep's clothes have been exposed before they could undermine the nation's interests to a damaging extent. Now it is up to Nehru to choose his lieutenants carefully taking their antecedents into account."

AJMER. **P. D. Gupta.**

HIS OWN BED

"Mr. Purushottamdas Tricumdas of Bombay, in the P.S.P. Conference at Gaya, observed, and rightly so, that the Congress has become a monolithic party because there was no opposition party in India. This is really a sad plight for a country like India which boasts of having a democratic structure within the framework of its Constitution. And it is really strange to note that even a party meeting is held in the office of the Prime Minister. Our Congressmen and Congress leaders have become simply the gramophone records of their "master's voice", Mr. Nehru.

"The tragic result is that Mr. Nehru is hemmed in by men who do not believe in the Nehru thesis. Mr. Nehru is thus the most tragic man in renascent India, his followers offering flowers at his shrine without devotion. A unique democracy indeed! Don't you feel giddy Mr. Patel about all these, about the erosion of democratic sentiments in the country?"

DINAPORE. **B. P. Akhouri.**

CONGRESS JUSTICE

"It may well be remembered that the general elections were held four years ago, in 1952, and the Election Commissioner's decision in the case of Shri Brijlal Biyani, Finance Minister of Madhya Pradesh has come out now that his election was void! We now hear that preparations of the 2nd general elections are going on and the cases of the last elections were being disposed of now. Rather wonderful!

"These matters should, in fact, be settled within a few months after the elections. This kind of delay is at once inordinate and unwarranted. Something must be very much wrong with the election *machinery if three to four long years are* taken to reach these decisions. Again did not numerous Returning Officers verify and scrutinize the nomination papers when

they were filed? I remember the saying "justice delayed is justice denied."

BOMBAY. **N. K. Wadhwani.**

WRONG TRACK, ALWAYS

"Don't you sometimes wonder at the step-motherly unconcern with which the provision of extensive Road Transport and development of Animal Transport have been treated in our Plan for Prosperity? No less than Rs. 1400 crores have been bagged exclusively by the Railway Development but nothing has been specifically earmarked for Road Transport in the Second Five-Year Plan.

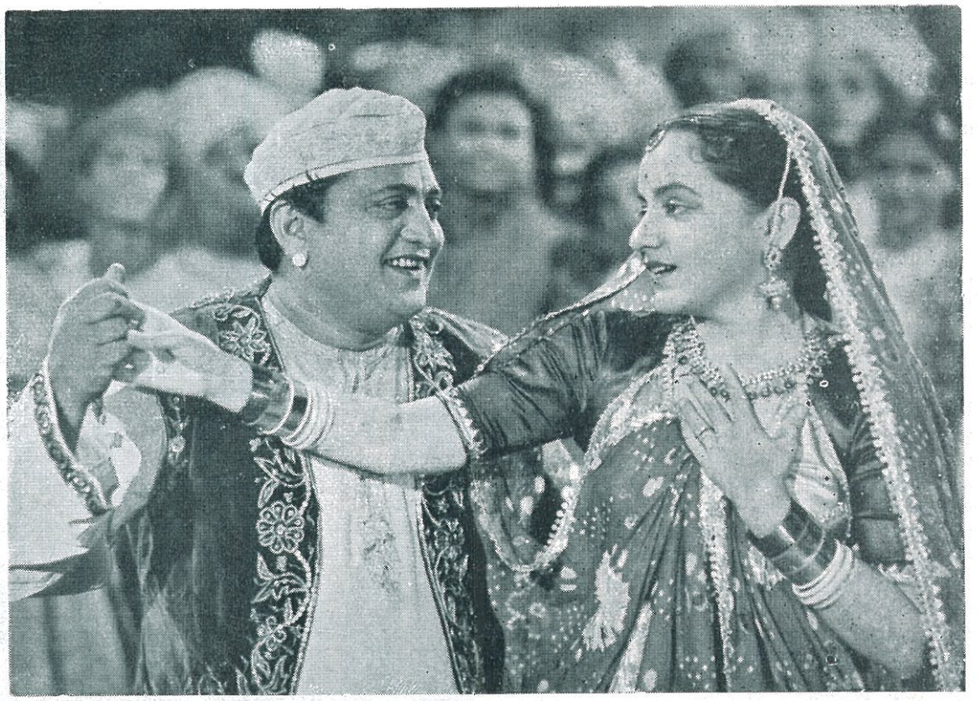
"Mahatma Gandhi once said that India lives not in its few cities but in its 7,00,000 villages; the last census further recorded that 60 million families comprising 30 crores or 82.5% of India's total population live in the countryside.

"Whereas the cities have streamlined webs of well-planned, wide and metalled roads for their inter-communication the villages are like stars in the firmament—still removed from each other and without a link between. The channels of communication connecting villages with towns are mere tracks, which are full of mud and slush in summer and over which the traditional bullock-cart plods its way with jolts and jerks. Bullockcart, as you know, is the only means of transport in the countryside — both for passengers and goods traffic; modern mechanical transport services being a singular privilege of the man-in-the-town.

"It is a pity that the bullocks and the carts are deteriorating and degenerating day by day, and the Government are oblivious of the fact.

"The programme of the Community Projects was inaugurated by the President on a Gandhi Jayanti 3 years ago and the Prime Minister lifted a basket of earth to build a road in a project adjoining Delhi. Several State Ministers and sundry men of marks and ranks also rolled up their sleeves for a while before the eye of the Films Division camera. Many students and the villagers themselves also pooled their might to build roads. But all this touched but the fringe of the mighty problem, which in fact can be adequately tackled only by the extensive and all-resourceful agency of the Government.

"While on one side it is heartening to note that the travel and transport conditions have been completely metamorphosed, and the Airways, Seaways, Railways and Roadways have eliminated distances between big towns and cities of the world, it is rather intriguing on the other hand that our villages still remain segregated from the advanced urban life. The villages can approach cities only through 'wilderness of stones' or at the most some well-beaten tracks or footpaths often dirty and dusty or marshy and slushy.



True love often has neither age nor shape. But it has a heart—a common heart shared by two chests. Look at these popular potatoes—Bhagwan and Yashodhara Katju! They may get out of breath dancing but they have enough breath left for romancing in "Mastani", a thrilling tale of love.

"Can't the Government do something to improve this state of affairs?

"The cart travel in this context deserves special attention — it should be made comfortable both to the riders and the animals. The ten million bullock carts, if given an economic footing can alone prove a multi-purpose project. It can considerably solve the countryside transport problem, give a fillip to many cottage industries, provide employment to umpteen villagers and encash the otherwise idle animal power.

"Why not appoint an All India Board like the All India Khadi and Village Industries Board and then come to grips with the problem and tackle it in right earnest?"

NEW DELHI. **B. M. Malhotra.**

ALWAYS MISUNDERSTOOD

"There is a strange notion lingering in the minds of some that you are favourably inclined towards the producers of the South and that some leniency is shown by you while reviewing the films produced by them. How false and mistaken this notion is has been proved to the hilt by your review of "Insaniyat" appearing in "filmindia" of December 1955.

"Mr. S. S. Vasan, the producer and director of "Insaniyat", it is known to one and all, is a dear friend of yours.. All the same, you have pointed out in the course of the review the shortcomings of the film, as an impartial and unbiased critic is expected to do. Mr. Vasan always has his eye and attention fixed upon the masses and to delight and entertain them he produces pictures. This he does very successfully, sometimes at the expense of the intrinsic value and the artistic excellence, which are the sheet-anchor of any work of art worth the name. It seems that it is not so much his concern to elevate art and through that instruct and enlighten the public as it is his aim to entertain the masses. For an attitude like this, Mr. Vasan may be having various considerations, which can well be imagined.

"However, as a critic you cannot afford to lose sight of the aim and purpose of a film, a powerful medium of public instruction and you have justly done your duty in pointing out the drawbacks in "Insaniyat". This clearly shows that as a critic you are above all considerations of friendliness and antagonism and your reviews are ever and anon impartial and sincere—a thing rarely in evidence in the sphere of art criticism."

POONA. **K. Ponnuswamy.**

COMMERCIAL JOURNALISM

"Some days back I came across a leading newspaper which contained an article on Diwali by a Christian. A few days back I had also run into a well-known (well in the sense of 'widely') weekly journal which gave articles on Rajput history by a Christian. What exactly is the idea?

Is it the secular fashion in the world of journalism to consider non-Hindus greater authorities on Hindu topics than the Hindus themselves? Or is it just pitiful incense-burning at the altar of the god—or demon?—of secularism?"

BOMBAY. **D. S. Thawrani.**

ASK NEHRU

"The public in general and readers in particular are indebted to you for giving facts and figures of the various scandals in your November issue.

"Questions by Government servants in "filmindia" are objected to and they are told that it is against conduct rules of a government servant to ask queries. What do you think of an officer who asks his subordinate, a non-gazetted officer, who writes to "filmindia" to show cause why action should not be taken against him for questions appearing in "filmindia"?

"When persons responsible for several lakhs in various scandals are let off scot free it is a pity that it is considered a crime if a non-gazetted officer asks questions in "filmindia" and smiles on a hungry stomach, reading the humorous replies. Can there be greater scandal than this in this land of ours called Bharat wherein the Constitution guarantees freedom of expression? I ask you Babs!"

MADRAS. **K. A. K. Ayyangar.**

FREEDOM TO EAT

"The Minister for Parliamentary Affairs, Shri Satya Narayan Sinha, wails that the only way to ensure quorum in Parliament is to close the Central Hall of Parliament. The innocent Deputy Speaker asked, "What attraction is there in the Central Hall which is not here?" The irrepressible Kamath answered: "Idli and Dosai". Which means for the majority of M.P.'s, politics is not as tasty as Idli or Dosai. And I agree with them. Eating a well-browned Dosai is fun. But what fun can there be in raising hands and shouting aye as and when "whipped"?"

KALYAN CAMP. **Mrs. Lalitadevi.**

CALLING BIDHON ROY

"Do not be surprised when I say that you may be chased by a lunatic anywhere, any time on a road in Calcutta. And at times it is quite a scene to see a pack of dirty dogs wandering here in any street. You will not be helped by anyone (not even by the policeman, if by chance he happens to pass that way) because no one wants to get into a tangle with a mad man. Only a few days back I found a lunatic throwing stones on some people passing by. What can a person do at such times?

"And one should be prepared for a straight charge from a cow which has gone astray. Only today I found in Dharamtolla Street, a woman being charged by one such cow. The woman had gone pale from head to foot and was trying to run at top speed with the cow only three or four yards away from her heels. It was a miracle that the woman stumbled in excitement just at the last moment and the cow hissed by harmlessly. In the meantime a group of sympathisers gathered to discuss the event and were soon in a jam themselves. The cow must have its own way and was now charging full speed at them. Such scenes are really disturbing.

"Freelancing dogs are another nuisance. Cannot the authorities responsible do something to remedy such things? This certainly is no improvement and ought to have been included in the Second Five-Year Plan."

CALCUTTA. **J. S. Monga.**

These youngsters threaten. They never commit suicide even if they marry the wrong ones. That is an advantage of being young. You have so many things to live for, including those in your neighbourhood. Meet this gay knight, Shammi Kapoor, in "Sipah Salar", a romantic adventure.

GREAT MEN THEMSELVES

"Believe it or not, Mr. Patel, I witnessed Vankudre Shantaram's dance-musical "Jhanak Jhanak Payal Baaje" in the local theatre only because you have eulogized the film on its own merit without casting your mental-eye on his enmity. It is not because I am an empty reader of Baburao Patel, it is only because I am an admirer of Truth I witnessed "Jhanak Jhanak Payal Baaje". I never witness either Shantaram's or Sohrab Modi's films unless you recommend your reader to witness them. It is only because your impartial review does not depend upon the producers' personal weaknesses and grudges against you.

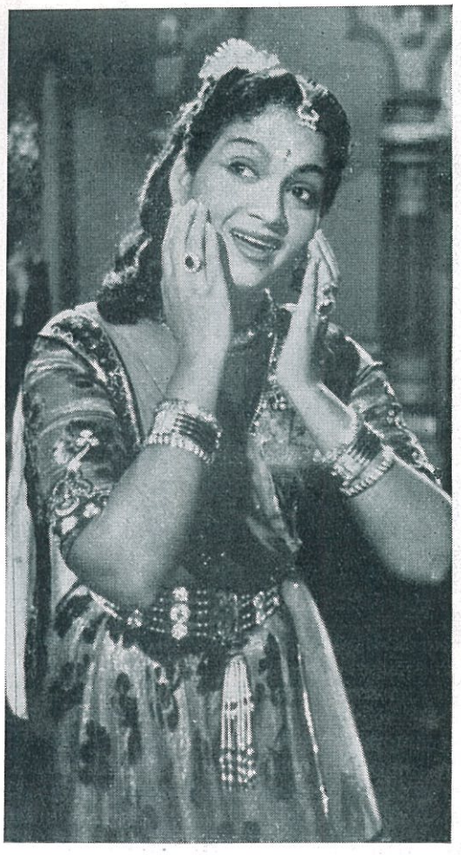
"But it is a different story with other critics and press reviewers. Their reviews entirely depend upon the dinner they are given by the producers or personal prejudices against or in favour of their papers. You certainly take my salute for your impartial reviews of "Jhansi-ki-Rani", "Parchhain", "Amar Bhoopali" and "Jhanak Jhanak Payal Baaje" to quote only the recent ones. How I wish that Shantaram and the prejudice-intoxicated producers of his ilk see much sense in your impartial reviews and unite with the one-and-only strong critic Baburao Patel and fight with the Government to get their grievances ventilated."

CALCUTTA. **K. Viswanathan.**

PROVOKING CATS

"Something should be done about baby shows. Nothing in the world causes so much jealousy. The woman next door stopped talking to us last year because my sister won a baby show and hers didn't. And now the baby show season is starting again. I must say, I was appalled by the way the children were lined up like pet dogs to be judged. The whole idea seems to be to foster the worst kind of parental pride and I am not sure it couldn't harm the babies too."

BOMBAY. **Miss C. Chandramani.**



That is a bright baby from the South and she is going to be popular on the Hindi screen. Anjali Devi gives an excellent performance in "Devta", a romantic tale produced by Narayanan & Co. and released by Gemini.

TRY PRAYER

"Your editorial "Midsummer Madness" is the best I have had the privilege of reading about the States Reorganisation Commission, its recommendations and implementation. To us who have worked for the past many years regarding unification of India, it is a source of pride to find recognition of the much talked of subject of the day in your esteemed magazine. It is fortunate that well qualified writers like you take pains and time to investigate the facts and present the public such a straightforward exploration of facts. But I would like to know from you as to what can an ordinary citizen like me do to bring about a change in thinking and attitude on the part of our leaders so that they can tackle the problem with a better thought and new ideas."

MANNARGUDI. **D. William Moses.**

MORE NOSES

"Judas' article "A Prayer For Good Noses" which appeared in the October issue of "filmindia" was very nice and interesting. It reveals a deep and inquisitive study on the noses of our stars. Kindly permit me to add some more to the list given by him. Bhanumati, the most versatile actress of the Indian screen today, has a snub nose, which is repulsive too, giving a headache to her cameramen. Anjali Devi, another versatile artiste of the South, cannot claim to have an ideal nose. Gemini Ganesan who commands a charming personality has a hooked nose which looks awkward in profile. Judas has significantly omitted to analyse Smriti Biswas' nose which is tilted upwards exposing the nostrils."

MADRAS **S. Lakshmi.**

FOOD FOR THE MIND

"I am penning this letter with tears in my eyes because I had to renew my subscription of "filmindia" in this month.

"For the past six months I am unemployed but being a lad of possessive nature I have decided to remain hungry rather than lose my monthly dose of wisdom.

"I have decided to notch my belt a little further and read the old issues of "filmindia" again and again to keep my Communist belly from shouting slogans."

BOMBAY **S. Chakrapani.**

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"I am in wholehearted agreement with the views expressed by Judas under the caption "What Has Nehru To Say?" in the December issue of "filmindia" wherein he has made a timely plea to stop, if need be even by a penal law, the criminal waste of public money which is in reality our national wealth—wealth which can be utilized for development of our national projects. The concern shown by Judas is all the more welcome as there is today an increasing fashion among our political pundits from Nehru and Dhebar down to ministers to keep on harping on the socialistic pattern of society which they promise will remove unemployment, illiteracy, poverty and misery from the land. The question arises: how can all these ills be eliminated when the national wealth is wantonly squandered, as Judas says, over demonstrations of garlands, civic receptions and illuminations in honour of the Congress leaders? Is this the way of humble living and serving the people? Have they forgotten the Father of the nation whose life was a living embodiment of simplicity and humility and who always emphasized practice before precept?

"Let the Congressmen always remember that in a vital democracy the spotlight is always on the people. Let the Congressmen translate the ideals of simplicity and humility in their own lives as behoves the disciples of Gandhiji before giving sermons to the people. Let them not in the guise of serving the people feed their ego and vanity with pomp, publicity and fanfare at the cost of public money which must, as Judas rightly observes, be diverted in nation building projects and activities. Till then the dream of socialistic pattern of society will remain a far cry."

BOMBAY. **Mansukh G. Bhagat.**

DESTINY IS DEAF

"In the December issue of "filmindia" you mention having seen the glimpse of blue blood in your sick bed. You want to make your readers laugh over it. In fact, you have made your readers feel sad the moment they finished reading that line. I for one felt very much about your health. You are very indifferent towards your health not only now but from your early days as can be seen from the article written by you and your wife in the Golden Jubilee Number. Anyway, I being one of the many admirers and wellwishers of yours, I earnestly request you to take care of your health. You can make your readers starve without "filmindia" but never struggle in a sick bed for months together.

"Take for instance the film "Shree 420". In spite of your severe criticism in the past that fool Raj Kapoor has brought a loathsome dirt for the public to see. Yet he is happy and rich and his trade flourishes, whereas your toil and trouble has not brought you just half the amount that film filth could gather in a few months. That is the way of this world.

"Therefore, dear Mr. Patel, try to have peace of mind and plenty of rest. You are badly in need of rest. Train your sons to run the show from now on, lest the institution which you have built with your hard labour and pains may flounder in the days to come.

"Trust this will find you in the best of your health and spirits."

BANGALORE. **R. Bhaskaran.**

BLAME THE WEATHER

"The most blame-worthy elements in our eternal society are considered to be the students, responsible for defaming young girls through flying kisses or other means not recognised by our society. In order to check this evil different State Governments have taken measures and appointed special police in mufti to detect such persons found guilty of teasing young girls. Not only this, we have Juvenile Courts to deal with the problems of juvenile delinquency patiently and delicately. But in spite of all this, we don't find any tangible change in the atmosphere—it is rather deteriorating day by day.

"Though the problem is very delicate and difficult we have to find its ultimate cause, as the solution cannot be found through force and persuasion only. Unless and until the cause of a disease is found, it is not only difficult but impossible also to remove its effects.

"India is a tropical country—where sexual maturity comes at an early age.

But on the other hand our eternal society wants everybody to have full self-restraint, whereas at the same time we find that films both Indian and foreign are there to exploit their passions. This ruthless exploitation is constantly after finding an outlet. The youth imitates whatever it finds in the films and hence our young girls are victims of all this.

"I think, it would not be wrong, if I put the whole blame on these films as there is both conscious and unconscious cry of the day to observe strict vigilance on the films to save the youth and posterity from further frustration and degradation."

NEW DELHI. **B. K. Sarna.**

NO MONEY

"You have got a remarkable way of presenting a case through your editorials. They contain plenty of statistics collected from varied sources, arranged beautifully and clothed in a powerful and appealing language. Collection of these facts and figures should have cost you much of time and labour. Why can't you collect these editorials and publish them in a book form? They will make a good and interesting reference book for the layman."

POONA. **P. Pasupathy.**

THEN? FIGHT NOW

"Your editorial "Midsummer Madness" has very rightly unmasked our politicians presenting them as they really are to the people. The value of your words, emphasizing unity of the country, can hardly be exaggerated in the light of the chaotic circumstances prevailing in India today. Every leader, big or small, is crying like hell to confuse the people and is displaying misguided enthusiasm to grab this or that piece of land for his community or the province as if that were his paternal property which he would take to the other world with him. For creating this mess our Congress Government is responsible to a very great extent. Everybody knows that members of the States Reorganisation Commission are proved men of substance and intelligence and what they recommended should have been accepted by the Government. But this did not happen.

"Broadcasting to the nation on 9th October 1955, Prime Minister Nehru said that he himself was surprised at some of the recommendations of the Commission and that gave an open invitation to unpatriotic politicians to attack the findings of the Commission employing all their ugly tactics. Moreover, in a democracy what affects all should be approved by all but the Congress High Command assumed to itself the mandate of the people and arbitrarily modified the Commission's recommendations as if India was inhabited only by white-capped nincompoops and none else. At present dirty politics, undue pressure and madness of power are ruling the roost in this country and only prayers and penance can help us. Unless Nehru appreciates the call of the hour and behaves like a statesman dealing with parochially-brained, petty politicians in a fitting manner the country may have to re-witness the holocaust of 1947 and nothing would be more tragic than that. What to do then, sir?"

AJMER. **Mrs. Kanti Sinha.**

GIVE TENDULKAR A TREE

"The welcome announcement in the Press that the Government of India are taking steps for the preservation of the house, in which the celebrated Urdu poet, Mirza Ghalib, once lived, shows that they are attaching great importance to literary fame. While this action is no doubt a step in the right direction, would it not be better to follow it up by preserving the body and soul, intact, of the living literary lights, who have unfortunately fallen on evil days?

"The case of Shri Tendulkar, the author of the monumental work on the life of Mahatma Gandhi, deserves special consideration. You have on more than one occasion focussed public attention on his sad plight and in doing so spared not your valuable columns. Will it not be strange that while we bestow thought and money on the preservation of the houses of the past poets and writers, we conveniently forget those living amongst us at the moment?"

BOMBAY. **M. S. Lulla.**

FIGHTING HUSBANDS

"It is said that there are innumerable ways of doing a thing in this world and the technique of wasting money, particularly in the case of our government, is no exception. We have come to know of the birth and the life of the so-called Women's National Cadet Corps of school and college girls. The sponsors of this scheme expect these girls to develop courage and stamina to fight on the front in case of a war. But where is the emergency when we possess such huge manpower? As a matter of fact we may be short of any other power but never manpower. It is said that as regards the growth of population we have already achieved the target of the 10th Five-Year Plan.

"Thus the expenditure on this scheme can never be justified. And then, would not the boys, given the same military training, be far more efficient than their sisters? The modern era is one of specialization. It would be wiser on the part of the authorities concerned to give the girls social welfare or uplift and nursing lessons in which they can excel. This will mean a real contribution to the nation.

"What I want to emphasize is that it is high time the sponsors of such a hypocritical and extravagant scheme came to their senses and stopped squandering the hard earned money of our tax-payers."

ALLAHABAD. **H. Narain Pandey.**

Annoyed and worried, Meena Kumari waits anxiously in "Amar Bani", a social story produced by Sirkar Productions.

DESHMUKH'S DREAM

"The Second Five-Year Plan shows a gap of Rs. 1,000 crores in resources. And now Mr. C. D. Deshmukh comes with the declaration that the expected Rs. 400 crores of foreign aid may not be forthcoming. He therefore proposes to raise additional taxation from Rs. 350 crores to Rs. 500 crores, loans and savings—already over-estimated from Rs. 900 crores to Rs. 1,200 crores and profits from railways and other Government enterprises from Rs. 50 crores to Rs. 200 crores. The deficit financing of the order of Rs. 1,000 crores is proposed to be further raised by Rs. 200 crores.

"As a student of Economics, I do not know how the Government is going to do it. For one thing the Finance Minister's target of 11% of national income being invested back is hardly realistic. May be that U.K., U.S.A. and U.S.S.R. are investing back 15%, 15% and 25% respectively of their national income. The first two can afford it because they are very prosperous. Russia is able to do it only by methods which will not be tolerated by any free, democratic society. For a country with bottomless standards 11% is going to be an uphill job. Is the Government sure it has fired the imagination of the country with an appeal felt deeply enough to suffer so much privation?"

BOMBAY. **N. K. Wadhwani.**

AN OLD COMPLAINT

"On the Diwali day I was invited by a friend for joining in the "Havan" performance. The Pandit-in-charge began to put forth long, difficult and quite speedily some 'mantras' in his peculiar tuning and I could feel that not even a single person got a real enjoyment out of the so-called great 'Ved-mantras'. I began to reflect that really the great and beautiful thoughts treasured in Vedas, being in Sanskrit, have been held as monopoly by our Brahmins and really it is very unfortunate for us.

"Swami Dayanand — that great missionary — wanted to bring the great Vedas back to us and if they continue to be in Sanskrit for ever, his mission will be unfulfilled. Everyone must admit that the Bible's message has now been spread all over the world due to the fact that the great book has been translated in more than 600 languages and dialects.

"Can't some noble soul come forward and render the great 'Ved-mantras' in all Indian languages, in an authentic manner, so that the common people may read them, may sing them and may thus be spiritually and culturally elevated? Or will the unfortunate remain devoid of the fruits of their ancestral heritage?"

JULLUNDUR. **Ram L. Nakra.**

HOLDING THE SCALES

"It is really unfortunate that there are still many who harbour utterly wrong notions about you and your character and who believe you are dishonest to the core, unscrupulous in your methods, a slanderer and blackmailer of the first water and a shameless opportunist. I have been unable to understand or account for their mentality. In spite of repeated proofs to the contrary, they cannot change their erroneous impressions about you. It may sound incredible to you, but when I received the 4th prize of Rs. 70 in the "Editor's Mail" last year, quite a few refused to believe that Baburao actually paid the declared amount till I showed them the M.O. coupon! I may also add here that I myself had my own doubts and misgivings about you and grossly misunderstood and underrated you till I became a regular reader of "filmindia" and was enabled, through a careful study of your writings, to form a correct estimate of your solid worth. I gradually became more and more convinced of your intellectual honesty, your absolute independence of outlook, your sagacity and sense of proportion, your strict impartiality and your remarkable powers of analysis of men and matters. Of course, you have your own views and opinions (everyone is entitled to them) and they may be strong at times and, if I may say so, you are a bit self-opinionated, but there is nothing wrong in all this. The important discovery I made about you, and one which increased my respect and admiration for you, was that you are completely unprejudiced, though you are so firm in your stand and so vehement in your denunciations, and your attacks on individuals and their work, whether in politics or in films, are never venomous or underhand and usually made in a constructive spirit. "Hate the sin but not the sinner" seems to be the motto which you unconsciously practise, though you make no show of it.

"A close and unbiased study of some specific issues and controversies in which you are involved cannot but convince anyone that it is wrong and unjust to bracket you with notorious yellow journalists. To give a typical and topical example, your review of V. Shantaram's "Jhanak Jhanak Payal Baaje", in which you have lavishly and unstintedly praised his picture and direction, should open the eyes of all those who believe that you have been criticising him and his films for a long time consequent upon you two having fallen out and your best friend having become your worst enemy. They must have expected you to give a downright condemnation of the picture and must be simply feeling astounded and nonplussed now as to what to make out of a person like you who can give full credit where it is due whether the 'opponent' appreciates the nobility or not. I wonder what Shantaram's own reaction would be, but I have no doubt that he will respect you more. I hope your review of "Jhanak Jhanak Payal Baaje" which is perfectly balanced and just, as are all reviews in "filmindia" will remove the misconceptions in the minds of those who know you only superficially and who seem to be having a prejudice against you. This is, however, only one of many such instances which prove beyond any shadow of suspicion that your journalistic code is not only upright and unassailable, but is worthy of emulation by all.

"Again, your reply to a reader's query that V. Shantaram is a good frame-maker but not a creative painter sums up in a pithy sentence his excellence as well as his failing. There is no one in India, and there are few abroad, who can surpass or equal this director in craftsmanship and technical perfection, but, as far as real creative artistic calibre is concerned, he cannot be given the palm, with all his famous 'touches'. I think Devaki Bose, Kedar Sharma and a few others are superior to him as pure creative artists and directors. Here again your appraisal has been just and appropriate and many will agree with you in this, as I do.

"I have not written these words with a view to flattering you for I am by nature sparing of praise, besides being a lazy correspondent. But I felt impelled to take up my pen as I am a lover of justice and a hater of prejudice and am keen, as far as lies in my power, to dispense with the former and remove the latter, the person actually concerned being of little importance to me."

BOMBAY. **S. Appu.**

WE ALLOW "BHOWANI JUNCTION"

"The Pakistan Government have proscribed historian Davies' famous "Outline of World History" becaue it contains slander on the Prophet. Allah have mercy on Davies, and on history. Why did history have to be what it is? Why is it not what it should be, according to the faithful? If if does not happen in the way it is wanted to happen, it should better not happen at all. This is my tip for the muse of (Pakistani) history."

KALYAN CAMP. **Mrs. Lalitadevi..**

CACKLING NEEDED

"Poultry farming nowadays has attained an unimaginable success as a subsidiary industry. In other countries like America, Denmark and even China, poultry farming has been a good source of national income. America, being the pioneer in this field, has been producing poultry products worth 600 crores of rupees which is even more than its wheat production. And in Denmark poultry farming is an annual business of Rs. 4½ crores, out of which poultry products worth 2½ crores of rupees are exported.

"In this vast country where the majority of the population makes its living from farming, it is imperative to have some sort of secondary industry as a subsidiary to farming so as to enable the people to utilize their unused time and surplus materials in producing something more to make a better living. There can be so many small and secondary industries but none can compete with poultry farming.

"Some provincial governments have realized the importance of poultry farming in our national life and yet a lot of pioneering work has to be done if this subsidiary source of food and income is to be useful on a national scale.

"And yet in certain parts of the country the hen is considered to be only a bird to be reared by the Muslims or Christians and not allowed to enter even the threshold of the Hindu home. This prejudice prejudices the future of poultry farming in our country and it is necessary that Government should do some propaganda to remove this prejudice."

SHAPUR-PATI. **Anand Behari Sinha.**

LIP SERVICE

"Among a thousand and one paradoxes into which our leaders thrust the bewildered common man, one is to remind him of India's unique culture, its glorious spirituality and dharma. He is told to be proud of India as a world teacher. The rest of the world is to be indebted for the spiritual inspiration and comfort it derives from India. No wonder, therefore, they vie with one another to make Bharat, the land of renunciation and saints, to be more materialist-minded by constantly aiding us with their filthy lucre. Now the turn has come to use Sanskrit to humbug the people; parishads and conferences of white-capped scholars are held with the usual pomp and glory. But the intelligentsia knows they are as barren as the bhoodan lands.

"Our sickly President of the Indian Republic coughs up praises for Sanskrit as often as his old asthmatic lungs could allow him; the vinegar-faced Vice-President, scholar of Sanskrit; Home Minister Pant and his deputy B. N. Datar (Prof of Sanskrit) think highly of it; the statue-faced Defence Minister 'Kaju' is enamoured of it; the Finance Minister 'Dasha Mukha' never loses an opportunity to give extempore speeches in that divine tongue; the Deputy Speaker Anantha Sayanam Ayyangar simply adores it; D. P. Karmarkar, another Union Minister, thinks highly of it; former Chief Justice Patanjali too plumbs for Sanskrit; four Chief Ministers and four Education Ministers are members of the fifteen-man committee formed at the Sanskrit Vishwa Parishad; Hare Krushna Mahtab, K. M. Munshi and R. R. Diwakar, all of them Governors are exhilarated at the very thought of Sanskrit.

"Now, Mr. Patel, if such powerful men who guide the destiny of the people want to revive Sanskrit (if not as lingua franca), make its study compulsory at High School and University stages, who prevents them —the people? When were the people ever consulted?

"Gandhiji wanted the students to learn Sanskrit at least so much as to read and understand the Gita in the original. But, then if ever there was anybody who listened and practised his teachings, it was only Gandhiji himself!

"The clue to the riddle of negligence of Sanskrit lies in your words. In one of your former editorial fulminations you told us that as long as our Education Ministry is in the hands of an Arab, we cannot expect anything better. Maulana Azad is interested in propagating Persian, Arabic and Urdu. Besides, his benefactor Nehru, "the last moghul emperor" is dash pally with him. Excused. But is Keskar too an Arab? Under the different transmissions of the All India Radio we have about 90 minutes programme in the Arabic at the entire neglect of Sanskrit. Does he know that Sanskrit is one of the 14 languages recognized by the Constitution of India? His classic and cultural jargons are not even interesting.

"It is an admitted fact", said the Leninfaced modern saint K. M. Panikkar "that unless we revive our culture we are not going to prosper" (Nov. 11th, Ram Tirth Anniversary, Delhi). Said this eminent historian oracularly on another occasion (at Jaipur on Dec. 3rd '55) "Many in New Bharat are so definitely orientated towards modern studies, seem to hold the view that the study of Sanskrit can be allowed to take a secondary place. This in my opinion is a very short-sighted view. The basis of our cultural unity is Sanskrit. It is the literature that is embodied in that great language that provides us all over Bharat with background of our culture. Without the continued cultivation of Sanskrit by the intelligentsia of the country, the cultural unity of Bharat will suffer." This prophesy deserves a hearing.

"Israel has made Hebrew their national language and the medium of instruction; and now we see how 17 lakh Israelis hold their own against 4½ crore Arabs! That's the stuff that could give us the much-needed national ego, self-respect and solidarity."

HUBLI. **L. Ganapathy Rao.**

TOO LATE

"Only a patriot absolutely free from provincial prejudices and linguistic lunacy could have written the thought-provoking and scholarly editorial, "Midsummer Madness", in the December issue of "filmindia". The frenzy and sheer madness that have been let loose in the country after the publication of the States Reorganisation Commission's report are enough to make a self-respecting and patriotic Indian hang down his head with shame. The sorry spectacle of the undisciplined behaviour of some of the Congressmen, specially in Bombay, shows how flimsy and superficial is the loyalty of certain gentlemen towards their organization.

"No commission on this God's good earth is capable of producing a report that will satisfy everyone of the multitude of our small town politicians. What does it matter if a particular district goes in one State or another? After all does that district cease to be in India after it is merged in a particular State? Time has in fact already passed for a cry to halt this malaise of provincialism or linguism: we are heading for the much dreaded balkanisation of India. What has taken over half a century of struggle and sacrifice to build is in the danger of being destroyed within a matter of few years. While on the one hand Pakistan has broken the provincial and linguistic barriers by constituting the whole of West Pakistan into one single unit, we are sowing the seeds of a future division of the country!

"The only sensible course is to shelve the S.R.C. Report for another twenty-five years and consolidate the country. Problems of a far greater significance should be solved first before we embark upon this wild goose chase!"

BOMBAY. **M. S. Lulla.**

POISONING CHILDREN

"As though in response to Judas' article "Children Or Puppets Of Politics" in the December issue of "filmindia" comes a U.P.I. message from Bombay published in the "Deccan Herald" of 20-12-1955 which runs thus: "A resolution expressing disapproval of the political exploitation of children during the receptions that were accorded to the Soviet rulers when children were mobilised through educational institutions to cheer, wave flags, and to shout slogans was adopted at a recent meeting of the Indian Committee for Cultural Freedom."

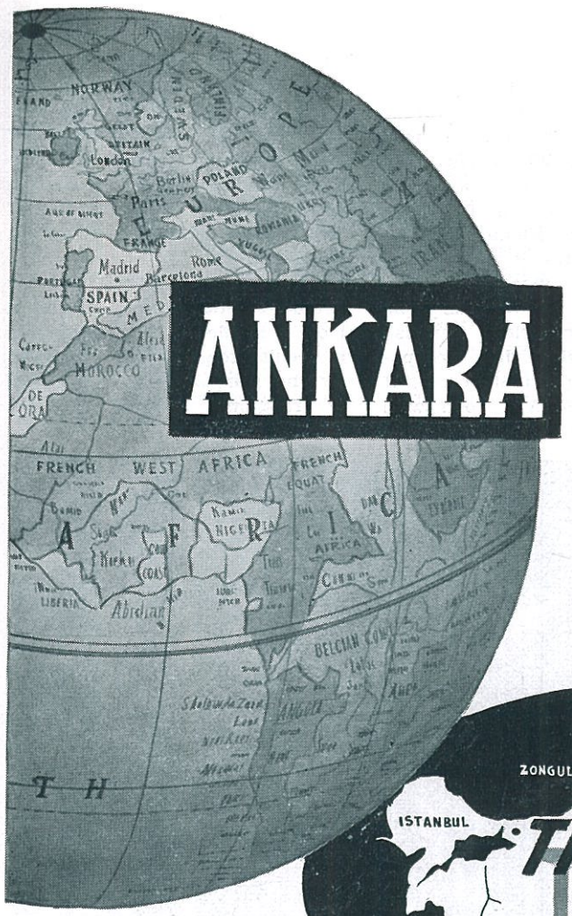
"This is but a small beginning of the protest which should emanate from the public and public bodies who are interested in the welfare of our children. On November 26th, the day of the Soviet leaders' visit to our city, thousands of children were lining the streets through which the Soviet guests were to pass. They arrived an hour late i.e. by about 12 noon and many of the poor kids (two of my sisters included), who were waiting from eight in the morning, fainted due to the scanty shelter from the scorching sun. The teachers in charge, more anxious to see the Russian Top Two, did not even properly attend to the unfortunate children. And that was the last occasion on which we allowed our sisters to participate in such welcomes. I wish other parents would follow suit."

BANGALORE. **Y. N. S. Rao.**

AND YET —

"Your novel, fascinating and interesting review of S. S. Vasan's "Insaniyat' in the December issue of "filmindia" is a pleasant surprise to many of your readers. Some of them expected your review of "Insaniyat" to be full of encomiums as you have done with his other super box-office hits, but your direct, downright and point-blank criticism of Mr. Vasan's picture, "Insaniyat", which is meant for mudbrained masses, and calling a spade a spade without mincing matters and treating the whole in a masterly and original manner is a novel feature and is much pleasing and fascinating to read. This review, written in a most dispassionate and detached manner, speaks once again of your high probity, integrity and originality and establishes you as the greatest film critic in the world."

WARANGAL. **M. S. Shanker Rao.**



ANKARA

Orthodox Muslim convention denied Turkish women sunshine and fresh air, and pretty faces like this one were once hidden behind veils. But Kemal Ataturk took the veil off and emancipated the women by giving them equal rights and opportunities with men. And today Turkish women face the world boldly with unveiled faces as doctors, nurses, teachers, civil servants, artists and even legislators.

Young in age as the capital of Turkey, Ankara is still an ancient town. Only a generation ago it wore the garb of a shabby village, poor in look, putrid in sanitation and forgotten in importance. But something happened to it one day. The great Turk, Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, decided to make it the capital of Turkey, taking away that privilege from the traditional Istanbul (Constantinople). And though at the time it looked as if greatness was being thrust upon an unworthy town, today, in about three decades, Ankara has more than fulfilled the dream of Ataturk who zealously sought to develop it into a glorious capital and a glamorous city modelled after the best of American cities.

Ankara was Angora once and Ancyra in the distant past. The Romans called it Ancyra and named it the capital of their province of Galatia Prima. And it was Angora when blood-thirsty Tamerlane descended upon Asia Minor with a horde of about 2,00,000 professional pillagers and inflicted such cruel defeat on Bajazet I and such destruction on the town that since then the Turks have refused to believe that Tamerlane's army could have consisted of anything less than 8,00,000 men. Thus, as a capital Ankara may be young but as a milestone of history it is as old as Asia Minor. And Asia Minor is older than history.

Besides occupying a small strip of South-eastern Europe, modern Turkey mainly consists of the plateau of Asia Minor — which is the name given to that portion of Western Asia, which juts out of the main mass of the continent to form an oblong peninsula bounded on the North by the Black Sea, on the West by the Aegean Sea and on the South by the Mediterranean. In the East, Turkey has common frontiers with Syria, Iraq, Iran and Soviet Russia. The European part of Turkey is separated from the Asiatic part by the Marmara Sea, and the Straits of Dardenelles and Bosphorus. Turkey, thus, is the curious country which is neither completely Asiatic nor completely European. It is a part of both Europe and Asia.

The Ancient Greeks called this plateau Anatolia which means "The land of the rising Sun" or Orient, while today, being a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, Organization for European Economic Co-operation, and European Council, Turkey has become largely a part of Europe in spite of its preponderantly large area being in Asia. And the modern Turk is at pains to emphasize that his country today "geographically, historically, politically, economically, and culturally is a European country". He likes this synthetic distinction. It is a pity that these Europe-conscious Turks are powerless to lift the Anatolian plateau physically from Asia and plant it within the boundaries of Europe.

CRADLE OF ANTIQUITY

The earliest known civilization to have existed in Asia Minor was the Hittite civilization about three thousand years before the Greeks and the Romans. The next to live there were the Aryans but nobody knows the date of their descent from Europe. Aryans were followed by the kingdom of Lydia which closed shop in Asia Minor in 546 B.C. Persians were the next rulers till 334 B.C. when Alexander the Great invaded the place. Then Roman rule came in instalments and it covered most of the peninsula. Then followed centuries of Christianity, and Persian and Arab raids till in the eleventh century the Seljuk Turks established their supremacy in Asia Minor. And from then on, though they might have remained blurred for brief periods, the Turks always remained in the picture and continued in Asia as an imperial power till the First World War.

Ankara's modern and handsome railway station. A forgotten and neglected landmark of history a generation ago, Ankara today is a fashionable modern metropolis dotted with cafes, parks, boulevards and tall buildings, and the chief credit for this metamorphosis goes to Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, the father of the New Turkey, who made Ankara the capital of Turkey and zealously initiated its spectacular development.

But the Turks who made history as rulers, remained an enigma of history as a race. Nobody knows for certain their origin and historians are hard put to it to classify them ethnologically. In Asia Minor they are first seen as Seljuk Turks. Seljuks were broken down by the Crusaders but only to be soon replaced by their kiths, the Ottoman Turks who immediately set about laying the foundations of the Ottoman Turkish Empire. Ottomans suffered a disastrous defeat in 1402 at Angora at the hands of Tamerlane but in less than two centuries, the Ottoman Turkish Empire reached the zenith of its power, having by the time annexed or subjugated Greece, Serbia, Bulgaria, Macedonia, Egypt, Rhodes, Cyprus and Crete, apart from other territorial holds.

From the last quarter of the 16th century, the Turkish empire started going the way of most empires till by 1913 Turkey had only a tiny bit of territory left in Europe. In the First World War, Turkey joined the Germans and fought Russia, Britain and France till it was forced to sign an armistice with the Allies on October 30, 1918. But the event of greatest significance to Turkey during the World War was the emergence of Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, Turkey's man of destiny. In 1919 Mustafa Kemal unfurled the banner of revolt against the sultanate and vigorous resistance against the Greeks who sought to appropriate Turkish territory following their occupation, along with British forces, of Smyrna (Izmir). And soon with his political popularity and military victories, Mustafa Kemal succeeded in ousting the Greeks, seeing the Sultan leave the country, nullifying the Treaty of Sevres, and in signing a treaty of peace at Lausanne with the Allies. On October 29, 1923, Turkey was declared a republic with Mustafa Kemal, the military leader, as its first President.

This was the beginning of a new era of dynamism which radically changed the shape and complexion of Turkey. Mustafa Kemal ruled with the proverbial mailed fist but he had big plans for Turkey and he wanted to accomplish them in a hurry. The sultanate was already abolished being reduced to a plain caliphate with no temporal powers. But after the establishment of the Republic of Turkey, the caliphate was also abolished and all the members of the House of Osman were ordered to be exiled. Seeing religious elements interfering with politics and brewing trouble, Mustafa Kemal embarked upon a ruthlessly bold campaign of secularizing Turkey. Following the Kurdish rebellion incited by religious leaders, Mustafa Kemal abolished all Muslim religious houses, banned the wearing of the fez and any distinctive dervish dress, and imposed European head-dresses and garments on the people. He also abolished Muslim religious schools and polygamy, while traditional restrictions on female education were removed. Women were persuaded to discard the veil and boldly face the world with unmasked faces.

Ataturk shaved off the Moulvis but he could not remove this famous beard. The famous Angora goat with its famous long, silky hair and its famous funny beard which some men also cultivate on their chin and call it "goatee". This gentle creature provides the famous Angora wool, and mohair, as its hair are called in their manufactured state, is renowned for its high quality.

A view of the port of Istanbul (Constantinople) perched along both the shores of the Strait of Bosphorus. Bosphorus, a 20-mile long and narrow strait separating Europe from Asia is aptly called a "salt river" and it is here that the continents of Europe and Asia come within a few hundred yards of meeting each other.

SCRAPPED OLD LAWS

That the Turkish people approved of Mustafa Kemal's re-

forms was proved at the next general election of 1925 when Mustafa Kemal's party secured all the seats, and he was re-elected the President. Mustafa Kemal now went ahead with more radical reforms at a giddy pace. He introduced the International calendar and clock in the country, instituted a civil code on the Swiss model replacing the Muslim Sacred Law and thus rescued marriage, divorce and inheritance from Islamic laws. He then got the constitution modified and in 1928 Islam ceased to be the State religion.

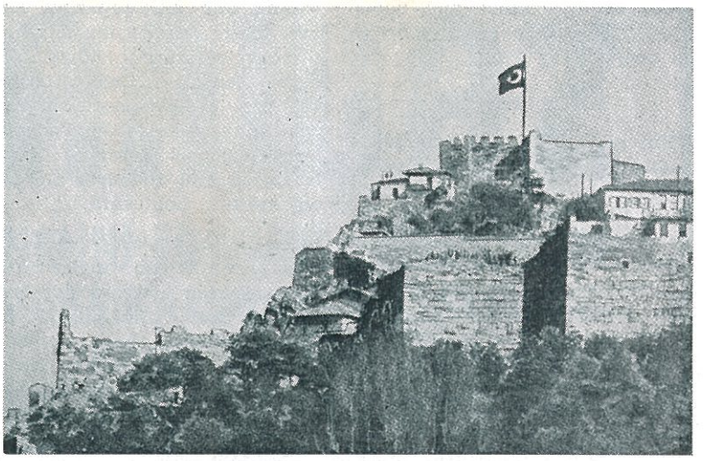
Mustafa Kemal's secularism, however, was not so evident in his treatment of his local Greek and Armenian population which was thrown out of Turkey practically en masse. But the enormous zeal and startling radicalism with which he tried to reform and develop his country and the grim determination with which he accomplished his patriotic objects, make us forget his few failings. He wanted Turkey to lift itself by its bootstraps and by the time he died in 1938, Turkey was well placed on the road to progress.

The Temple of Augustus, now of course in ruins, is another historic monument of Ankara. The temple contains an inscribed record of the reign of Augustus Caesar and gives a glimpse of Ankara's hoary history.

In 1934, the old titles of pasha, bey and effendi were abolished, while women were given the franchise.

In the field of education, he ordered the adoption of a new Turkish alphabet based on Latin characters, in place of the old Arabic script. And in his reformist zeal he went to the extent of insisting by law that every Turk should have a surname. The measure was good-intentioned though, because with no surnames the commonplace Muslim names tend to create confusion. Mustafa Kemal himself got the surname, Ataturk, (Chief Turk) through a special law passed by the Assembly. Mustafa Kemal believed in secularism at home and in Turkey claiming no influence beyond its boundaries. He directed his main energies towards reforming his own country and leaving the rest of the world generally alone, though he was successful in solving many foreign problems of Turkey peacefully.

Mustafa Kemal was succeeded by Ismet Inonu. In the Second World War Turkey tried to remain neutral but finally in 1945, it declared war on the Axis. And in the post-war period, with Turkey willing to frown on Communism and with Uncle Sam smiling on Turkey, Turkey benefited hugely from Lend-Lease, Marshall Plan and other aids which brought the dollars flowing into the country freely. After the 1950 elections Mahmut Celal Bayar became the third President of the Turkish Republic.



The citadel of Ankara (Ankara Kalesi) is an ancient monument which takes one's mind back to the Middle Ages and provides a bird's-eye view of the city.

In the past three decades Turkey has undergone more changes than perhaps in any other period in its long history. But the Anatolian plateau is still as charming and more productive than Asia Minor was. Its climate has been known to be excellent through the ages. The land is fairly fertile. Of the total land area 26% is under cultivation, 43% constitutes pasture and meadows, so necessary for Turkey's cattle-wealth which includes the world-famous Angora goats, while 15% is taken up by forests leaving the rest, 16% to waste lands and lakes.

Turkey's famous products include tobacco, a solid money-earner with Americans alone annually buying about $30,000,000 worth of Turkish tobacco, raisins, figs, mohair (Angora wool) and opium, and of course carpets. Among its important minerals are chrome ore while it holds practically the world monopoly of meerschaum—the stuff with which are made tobacco pipes and cigarette holders. To im-

A tobacco planter's family at work. Tobacco is one of Turkey's chief export crops ranking next only to cereals and cotton. Turkish tobacco, classified as Oriental tobacco, is famous for its aromatic flavour and annually secures about $30,000,000 in foreign exchange from America alone.

prove its agriculture and industries, Turkey has been following its own 5-Year Plans.

MUCH TO SEE

But as far as one can judge visibly, no part of Turkey seems to have developed so much and in so little time as Ankara, the new capital of Turkey. With a population of 2,95,000, Ankara is a handsome modern city studded with modern boulevards, parks, restaurants, hotels, night clubs, and tall, pleasant buildings. There are many things to see in Ankara. Bedesten is an ancient caravanserai, recently restored. And near-by is the Hittite Museum, a visit to which takes one's mind travelling back to 2000 B.C. The Citadel of Ankara is another historic site to see for the tourist. Perched high above the city, this gloomy acropolis dates back to the Middle Ages. Other spots of interest are the Temple of Augustus, the Haji Bayram Mosque, the Roman baths, the Lapidary Museum, and the Ethnography Museum, where can be seen a rich collection of invaluable remains of the ancient Anatolian civilization.

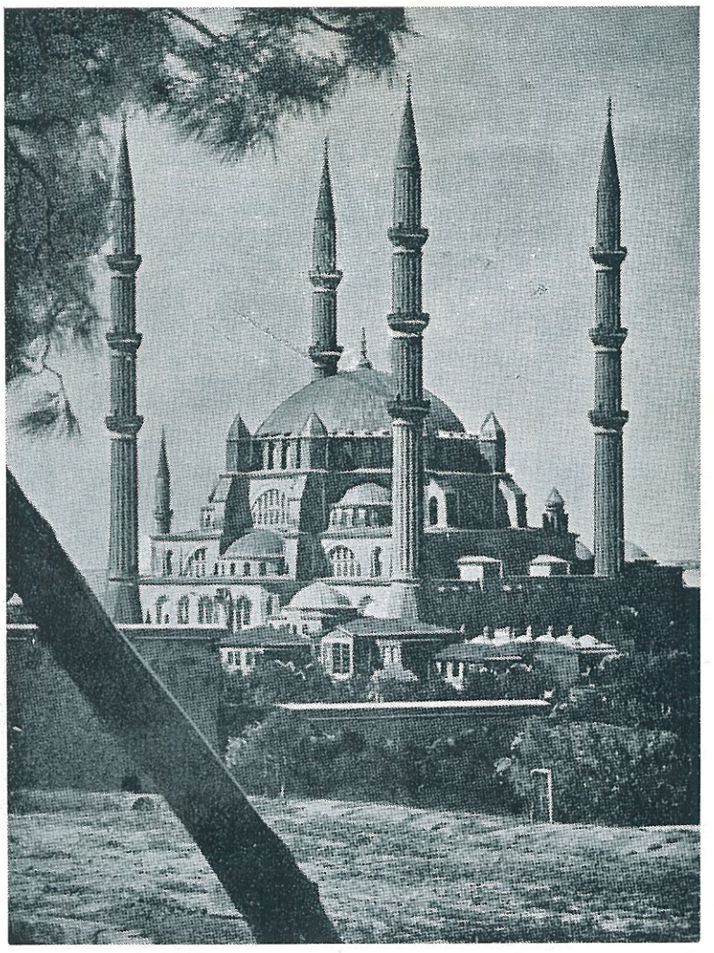
Coming away from history, there is the Chubuk Dam to see, the Ataturk Model Farm and the Ataturk Museum. An interesting sight at the Ataturk Model Farm are the two swimming pools built in the shapes of the Black and Marmara Seas. For dining, wining and entertainment there are many places including the famous restaurant Karpich located centrally and attracting the best of the people in town, the Ankara Palas Pavyonu, the Gar Gazinosu, Sureyya, Chiftlik Gazinosu and the open-air cafes on Ataturk Boulevard.

And if the visitor is in a footloose mood he can wander around and see the narrow streets of Ankara and the old Turkish houses along them giving a glimpse of the earlier Turkish architecture. And for the wanderer there is the Guvenlik Memorial, the residence of the President atop Chankaya, the Polygon, the Kechioren, Ankara's brewery, and of course the zoo where one can see the famous Angora goats—the only citizens of modern Turkey with beards.

However, though Ankara is the capital of Turkey, Istanbul (Constantinople), the old capital, is the largest and best known city of Turkey and a visit to Turkey cannot be complete without visiting this ancient, historic city on the Bosphorus whose ancient name was Byzantium. And one may stay in Istanbul for months and yet may not see enough of it. The two more worth visiting towns in Turkey are Izmir and Bursa.

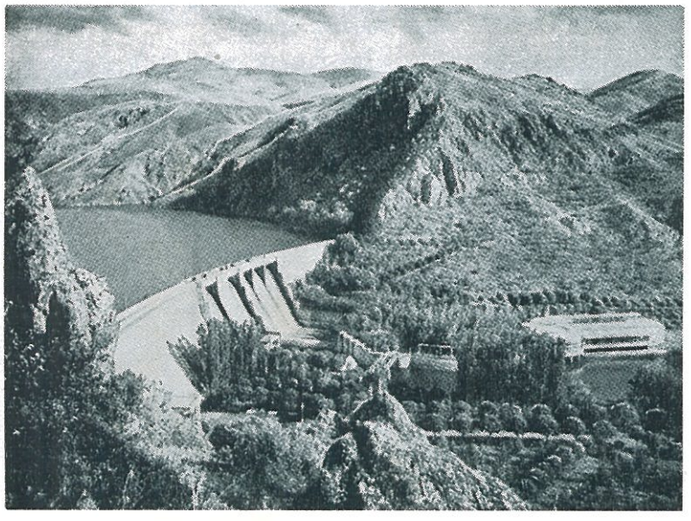
A visit to Turkey is always likely to leave a thoughtful person with many and various thoughts. The Turkey one sees in Ankara wears a predominantly Western look and is bubbling with modern civilization revealing little trace of its being a very ancient land. And yet it was here that Tamerlane battled with the Turks, and the Romans had their provincial capital. The Turkey, which on its Western end contains the spot where once stood the celebrated Troy, and which on its eastern end has the Mount Ararat where according to the Bible, Noah's Ark landed after the Deluge, is today marching on the road of reforms and progress totally unencumbered by tradition. And an ancient land without tradition is a wonder.

But perhaps Turkey shows that sometimes it is good for a country to jettison its whiskered tradition for the sake of speedier progress. Anyway, let us hope that now that the two-party system of democracy has evolved in Turkey, it will develop into a good democratic country and will be aloof from trouble in spite of its flirtation with Americans and their dollars.



The Selimiye Mosque in Edirne dates back to the 16th century and is a prominent example of Ottoman architecture.

The Chubuk Dam, a symbol of the New Turkey busy with construction, development and progress. Ankara gets its water supply from here. For the visitors there is a pleasant casino-restaurant on the site.



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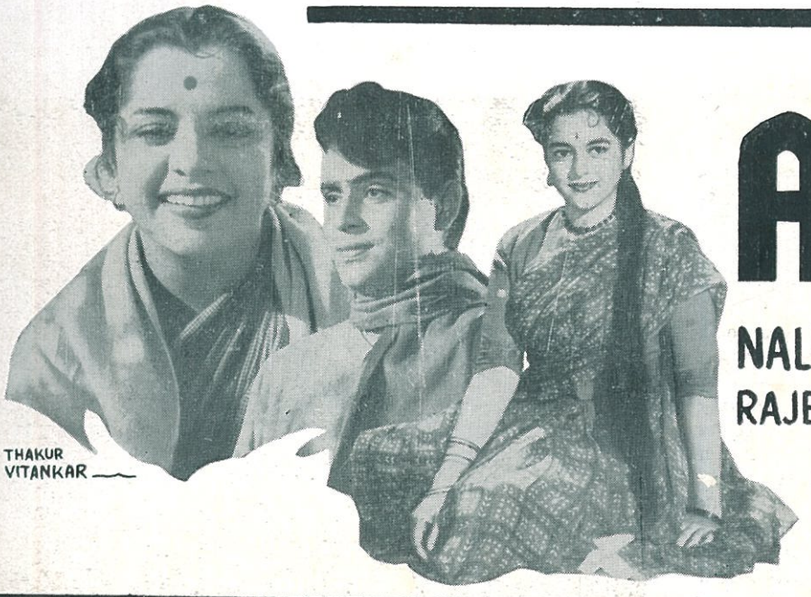

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